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GOVERNMENT OF BENGAL
MAR 1915
LEGISLATIVE

Abstract of the Proceedings of the Bengal Legislative Council assembled under the provisions of the Indian Councils Acts, 1861, 1892 and 1909, and the Government of India Act, 1912.

THE Council met in the Council Chamber in Government House on Tuesday, the 13th January, 1914, at 11 A.M.

PRESENT:

His Excellency the Right Hon'ble THOMAS DAVID, BARON CARMICHAEL OF SKIRLING, G.C.I.E., K.C.M.G., Governor of the Presidency of Fort William in Bengal, *presiding*.

The Hon'ble SIR FREDERICK WILLIAM DUKE, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., *Vice-President*.

The Hon'ble MR. P. C. LYON, C.S.I.

The Hon'ble NAWAB SYED SHAMS-UL-HUDA.

The Hon'ble MR. STEVENSON-MOORE, C.V.O.

The Hon'ble MR. J. LANG.

The Hon'ble MR. J. G. CUMMING, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. B. K. FINNIMORE.

The Hon'ble MR. J. H. KERR, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. H. L. STEPHENSON, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. H. F. SAMMAN.

The Hon'ble MR. C. H. BOMPAS.

The Hon'ble MR. B. C. MITRA.

The Hon'ble MR. W. W. HORNELL.

The Hon'ble Mr. C. F. Payne.

The Hon'ble Mr. B. B. Newbould.

The Hon'ble Rai Priya Nath Mukharji Bahadur.

The Hon'ble Mr. A. N. Moberly.

The Hon'ble Colonel G. F. A. Harris, C.S.I., M.D., I.M.S.

The Hon'ble Mr. H. J. Hilary.

The Hon'ble Nawab Sir Khwaja Salimullah Bahadur, G.C.I.E., K.C.S.I.

The Hon'ble Mr. S. P. Sinha.

The Hon'ble Dr. Nilratan Sarkar.

The Hon'ble Raja Hrishikesh Laha, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble Mr. R. Glen.

The Hon'ble Mr. E. A. Martin.

The Hon'ble Mr. Byomkes Chakravarti.

The Hon'ble Maharaja Jagadindra Nath Ray.

The Hon'ble Raja Shoshi Kanta Acharyya Chaudhuri Bahadur.

The Hon'ble Dr. Deba Prasad Sarbadhikari.

The Hon'ble Mr. J. G. Apcar.

The Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur.

The Hon'ble Mr. Norman McLeod.

The Hon'ble Mr. J. C. Shorrock.

The Hon'ble Mr. W. T. Grice.

The Hon'ble Mr. V. Woods.

The Hon'ble Mr. A. W. C. Chaplin.

The Hon'ble Mr. Golam Hossein Cassim Ariff.

The Hon'ble Maulvi Mazharul Anwar Chaudhuri.

The Hon'ble Maulvi Musharraf Husain.

The Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Faz-ul-Haq.

The Hon'ble Nawab Saiyid Hossam Haider Chaudhuri, Khan Bahadur.

The Hon'ble Maharaja Ranajit Sinha of Nashipur.

The Hon'ble Rai Nalinaksha Basu Bahadur.

The Hon'ble Raja Mahendra Ranjan Rai Chaudhuri.

The Hon'ble Nawab Saiyid Nawab Ali Chaudhuri, Khan Bahadur.

The Hon'ble Babu Prasanna Kumar Ray.

The Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Banerji.

The Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Ray.

The Hon'ble Babu Mahendra Nath Ray.

The Hon'ble Rai Hari Mohan Chandra Bahadur.

The Hon'ble Babu Upendra Lal Ray.

[*Mr. Stevenson-Moore; Colonel Harris; Mr. Bompas; Sir Khwaja Salimullah Bahadur; Mr. Martin; Maulvi A. K. Faz-ul-Haq; Mr. Kerr; Babu Surendra Nath Ray; Mr. Cumming.*]

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 1.

OATH OR AFFIRMATION OF ALLEGIANCE.

The Hon'ble Mr. Stevenson-Moore, the Hon'ble Colonel Harris, the Hon'ble Mr. Bompas, the Hon'ble Sir Khwaja Salimullah Bahadur and the Hon'ble Mr. Martin made the prescribed oath or affirmation of their allegiance to the Crown.

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 2.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

The following questions which had been starred were put and answered—

by the Hon'ble MAULVI A. K. FAZ-UL-HAQ :—

Placing of selected officers of the Provincial Civil Service in charge of Wards Estates

* 1. (*a*) Have the Government ever considered a scheme for placing selected officers of the Provincial Civil Service in charge of Wards' Estates?

(*b*) If so, will the Government be pleased to state whether any such appointment has yet been made?

The Hon'ble MR. KERR replied :—

(*a*) "The answer is in the affirmative. The late Government of Bengal and the late Government of Eastern Bengal and Assam decided in 1905 and 1906 that, on the occurrence of suitable vacancies, a certain number of officers in the permanent service of Government should be appointed managers of estates under the Court of Wards.

(*b*) In the former province of Bengal, three appointments as managers of wards' estates were held by Deputy Collectors in 1906, 1907 and 1908, six appointments in 1909 and five appointments in 1910 and 1911. All these posts appertained to estates which are now in the province of Bihar and Orissa. In the former province of Eastern Bengal and Assam, one post of manager of a Court of Wards' estate was held by a Deputy Collector in 1910-11. Since the creation of the existing Presidency of Bengal in April 1912, no vacancy suitable for a Deputy Collector has occurred, and no appointments under the Court of Wards are at present held by officers of this class."

by the Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH RAY :—

Expenses incurred by Government in the Calcutta Small Cause Court Bailiff's case

* 2. (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether they have been defraying the expenses of the accused in the Calcutta Police Court and in the High Court in what is known as the Calcutta Small Cause Court Bailiff's case in which Mr. A. Meredith and Mr. F. Bomeswetch are the accused?

(*b*) If so, will the Government be pleased to state the amount of the expenses incurred and paid by them up to date on behalf of the defence?

The Hon'ble MR. CUMMING replied :—

(*a*) "Government have been defraying the expenses of the defence of Mr. A. Meredith, one of the accused in the case mentioned in the question.

(*b*) The amount of expenses paid by Government up to date amounts to Rs. 14,079-12. Counsel's bill for fees due for opposing the application in the High Court has not yet been submitted. Government will also pay the expenses of the defence of Mr. Meredith at the retrial ordered by the High Court which is now pending."

[*Babu Surendra Nath Ray; Mr. Samman; Babu Surendra Nath Banerji.*]

by the Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH RAY :—*concld.*

* 3. (*a*) With reference to the answers given to my Question No. [illegible], at the meeting of Council held on the 17th March, 1913, and Question No. 56 given at the meeting of the 2nd April, 1913, will the Government be pleased to state the number of high schools which are in receipt of grants-in-aid to the extent of one-half of so much of their income as is guaranteed from private sources (including fees, etc.), and the number of schools which are in receipt of ⅓rd, ¼th and less, respectively, of such guaranteed income? Grants-in-aid to high schools.

(*b*) Will the Government be pleased to state what steps (if any) they have taken or are taking to increase the grant-in-aid where it is at present less than ⅓rd of the income guaranteed from private sources?

The Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN replied :—

(*a*) "A statement giving the required information is laid on the table.

(*b*) Till lately it has not been found possible to accomplish anything material in the direction indicated. The recent Imperial recurring grants of one lakh fifty thousand and two lakhs twenty-six thousand for secondary schools will enable Government to make substantial additions to the grants already given to aided schools."

[illegible]ement referred to in the Answer by the Hon'ble Mr. Samman to Question No. 3.

AREA.	Number of Government-aided high schools for boys	Number of Government-aided high schools for boys receiving aid equal to or in excess of half the income from private sources, including fees.	Number of Government-aided high schools for boys receiving aid equal to or in excess of one third but less than half the income from private sources including fees.	Number of Government-aided high schools for boys receiving aid equal to or in excess of one-fourth, but less than one-third the income from private sources, including fees	Number of Government-aided high schools for boys receiving aid less than one-fourth the income from private sources.
1	2	3	4	5	6
[illegible]ency Division ...	69	1	5	8	55
[illegible]an Division ...	65	2	1	1	61
[illegible] Division ...	25	...	1	5	19
[illegible]gong Division ...	14	1	Nil	6	7
[illegible]hi Division ...	18	...	8	3	7
Total ...	191	4	15	23	149

by the Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI :—

* 4 (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether any disturbances in which Gurkha soldiers were implicated have occurred in Dacca, Narayanganj and Munshiganj? Alleged disturbances by Gurkha soldiers in Dacca, Narayanganj and Munshiganj.

(*b*) If so, was Mr. Seaton, the Additional Magistrate of Dacca, deputed to inquire into the matter and to report on it?

(*c*) Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table Mr. Seaton's report (if any)?

(*d*) Further, if these disturbances by Gurkha soldiers have occurred in the past, will the Government be pleased to state what measures they have taken or are taking to prevent their recurrence?

[*Mr. Cumming; Babu Surendra Nath Banerji.*]

The Hon'ble MR. CUMMING replied :—

(*a*) "Disturbances in which Gurkha soldiers were implicated have occurred in Dacca. Complaints relate to two sets of incidents, namely, those of 11th, 12th and 13th November, and those of 29th and 30th November and 1st December. At Munshiganj no disturbances occurred, but there was a collision between a Gurkha soldier on Sub-Treasury guard duty and a Munsif who passed by the Sub-Treasury after dark.

Complaint was also made that in the course of some training exercises some of the sepoys on one occasion entered some private courtyards.

No disturbances occurred at Narayanganj.

(*b*) & (*c*) Mr. Seaton, the Additional Magistrate of Dacca, was deputed to inquire into the matter and to report on it. The conclusions at which the District Magistrate has arrived are as follows :—The first set of incidents is attributable to the men of the 10th Gurkhas, but the accounts which appeared in the Press were very much exaggerated. There were instances of mischief and assault and of taking small quantities of goods from shops either without payment or with inadequate payment. These occurrences were partly due to the refusal of shop-keepers to sell goods and to shop-keepers demanding exorbitant prices ; they were partly due to the fact that the Gurkhas, being strangers in the town, were rudely treated by the inhabitants and believed that they were liable to be attacked. The allegations of general loot and of theft of large sums of money from shops have been proved to be false. The second set of incidents is not clearly proved to be attributable to the men of the 10th Gurkhas.

Government are not prepared to lay Mr. Seaton's report on the table.

(*d*) Gurkha soldiers are only allowed to enter Dacca town with special passes given by their officers, and at fixed hours. During these hours Gurkha soldiers are on duty as regimental police to prevent disturbances.

The General Officer Commanding the 8th (Lucknow) Division visited Dacca from the 19th to the 21st December last, and after examining the situation with the local Civil and Military authorities, had a conference with some of the leading residents of Dacca. He expressed to them his desire that the friendliest relations should be established between the troops and the inhabitants of the town. It is believed that the General's visit has had the effect of restoring confidence."

by the Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI :—

Alleged lawlessness by the 10th Gurkhas in the town of Dacca

* 5. (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the 10th Gurkhas were prevented from visiting the busy quarters of the town of Dacca for a week or so?

(*b*) If so, what was the reason for this order?

(*c*) Is it a fact that an order was passed directing constables to accompany Gurkha Guards in the town of Dacca in order to prevent lawlessness by the 10th Gurkhas and that the shop-keepers were advised to complain about any act of lawlessness on the part of the Gurkhas through the constables who accompanied them?

(*d*) Is it a fact that no complaints by the shop-keepers and others were accepted by the police-stations and no first informations were recorded?

(*e*) If such complaints were recorded, will the Government be pleased to give the dates on which they were recorded and the names of the complainants in each of the three police-stations in the town of Dacca?

(*f*) Is it a fact that there is a panic in the town of Dacca on account of the Gurkha outrages, or the apprehension of such outrages and, if there is, will the Government be pleased to state the causes to which it is due and what steps they have taken to allay it?

[*Mr. Cumming; Nawab Saiyid Hossam Haider Chaudhuri, Khan Bahadur; Mr. Kerr.*]

The Hon'ble MR. CUMMIMG replied :—

(*a*) "Yes: the Dacca Bazar was closed to the 10th Gurkhas from the 14th to the 21st November last.

(*b*) This order was passed by the Officer Commanding the 10th Gurkhas on account of the reported collisions between shop-keepers and men of the 10th Gurkhas on the 11th, 12th and 13th November last.

(*c*) No such order was passed.

(*d*) It is not a fact that no complaints by shop-keepers and others were accepted at police-stations and that no first informations were recorded: in several cases the informants expressed unwillingness to have investigation made, and in these cases first informations were not recorded.

(*e*) The following is a list of the dates on which first informations were recorded and of the names of the complainants at each of the police-stations in the town of Dacca, namely :—

Name of police-station.		Date	Name of complainant
Lalbag	...	13th November, 1913	Abdul Kadir.
Kotwali	...	4th December ,,	Radha Raman Shaha.
Ditto	...	12th ,, ,,	Moti Pashakar.
Ditto	...	13th ,, ,,	Rashi Pashakar.

(*f*) Information on this subject has already been given in the reply to the previous question by the Hon'ble Member."

by the Hon'ble NAWAB SAIYID HOSSAM HAIDER CHAUDHURI, KHAN BAHADUR :—

* 6. (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that almost all over the Presidency grazing-grounds for cattle are gradually being brought under the plough, with the result that fodder is daily becoming scarce? Grazing grounds for cattle.

(*b*) If so, is any action being taken—

(*i*) to protect the existing grazing-grounds from encroachment, or

(*ii*) to create or form new ones?

The Hon'ble MR. KERR replied :—

(*a*) "The Hon'ble Member's attention is invited to the discussion on this subject which took place in this Council on the 13th March, 1913, and to the answer given to a similar question put by the Hon'ble Mr. Byomkes Chakravarti on the 17th March, 1913.

(*b*) Since last March, the question has been further considered by Government in consultation with the Commissioners of Divisions. No feasible method of dealing with the problem in private estates has been suggested, but the following measures are under consideration :—

(1) It has been suggested that District Boards should acquire additional road-side lands and let them out for grazing purposes.

(2) In the case of Government estates, the rules in the Government Estates Manual provide for the reservation of pasture lands and for their protection from encroachment. The Board of Revenue has been asked to consider whether these instructions should be amplified and supplemented

[*Nawab Saiyid Hossam Haider Chaudhuri, Khan Bahadur; Mr. Cumming; Babu Upendra Lal Ray; Mr. Samman.*]

by the Hon'ble NAWAB SAIYID HOSSAM HAIDER CHAUDHURI, KHAN BAHADUR :—*concld.*

(3) Various inquiries in regard to fodder crops have been made from time to time without much practical result, owing mainly to the difficulty of inducing the raiyats to substitute fodder crops for more valuable crops. The Director of Agriculture has been asked to consider the question of reopening these investigations."

Promotion of senior Muhammadan members of the Provincial Executive Service to District Magistrateships.

* 7. Will the Government be pleased to state whether any senior Muhammadan member of the Provincial Executive Service has ever been promoted as a District Magistrate since the creation of the "listed" posts?

The Hon'ble MR. CUMMING replied :—

"No senior Muhammadan member of the Provincial Civil Service has been promoted to a 'listed' post of Magistrate-Collector; but several Muhammadan officers of the Provincial Executive Service have been appointed from time to time to act as Magistrates and Collectors for short periods in local vacancies, and one 'listed' post has been held by a Muhammadan Statutory Civilian. Last year a post of Additional District Magistrate was offered to a Muhammadan officer, but for domestic reasons the officer declined the appointment."

by the Hon'ble BABU UPENDRA LAL RAY :—

Unification of existing rules regarding admission and transfer in the schools throughout the Presidency.

* 8. (*a*) Are the Government aware that the rules of admission and transfer in the schools of Eastern Bengal differ from those of Western Bengal?

(*b*) If so, will the Government be pleased to state whether they are taking any steps to fix the same rules, about admission and transfer, for all the schools of the Bengal Presidency?

The Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN replied :—

"The Hon'ble Member is referred to the answer given to Question No. 34 put by the Hon'ble Babu Prasanna Kumar Ray at the Council Meeting of the 1st December, 1913."

by the Hon'ble BABU UPENDRA LAL ROY :—

Arrangements for prevention of fire in the municipalities in the Chittagong Division.

* 9. (*a*) Are the Government aware that there are no arrangements for the prevention of fire in any of the municipalities of the Chittagong Division?

(*b*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether they are taking any action in regard to the establishment of fire brigades, or other preventive measures, in all those municipalities?

The Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN replied :—

(*a*) "Government have no information as to what arrangements for the prevention of fire are in force in the municipalities in the Chittagong Division.

(*b*) Under section 349A of the Bengal Municipal Act, 1884 (Ben. III of 1884), municipalities have power to establish and maintain a fire brigade. Government therefore do not propose to take any action in the matter."

[*Babu Upendra Lal Ray; Mr. Cumming; Mr. Samman; Babu Mahendra Nath Ray; Mr. Finnimore.*]

by the Hon'ble BABU UPENDRA LAL RAY :—

Alleged panic owing to movement of troops for the army manœuvres at Dacca.

* 10. (*a*) Are the Government aware that there is a panic among the inhabitants of certain districts in Bengal in connection with the movement of troops for the proposed army manœuvres at Dacca ?

(*b*) If so, will the Government be pleased to state what action, if any, they have taken to allay the panic ?

The Hon'ble MR. CUMMING replied :—

(*a*) "Government are aware that alarm has been expressed in certain districts at the prospect of troops passing through those districts.

(*b*) Local officers have been instructed to reassure the people that there is no cause for apprehension whatever in connection with the movements of the troops."

by the Hon'ble BABU UPENDRA LAL RAY :—

Proposed water works at Chandpur.

* 11. Will the Government be pleased to state what action, if any, they are taking in regard to the proposed water-works at Chandpur in the district of Tippera ?

The Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN replied :—

"No proposal for waterworks at Chandpur is formally before Government as yet. But it has been ascertained that a preliminary sketch of a water-works scheme for the northern section of Chandpur town has been prepared under the direction of the Sanitary Engineer and is now before the Sanitary Board for approval."

by the Hon'ble BABU MAHENDRA NATH RAY :—

Proposed Drainage Scheme in the Amta Swamps.

* 12. Referring to the Howrah District Gazetteer, pages 76-81, will the Government be pleased to state—

(*i*) whether their attention has been drawn to the present condition of the water-logged area locally known as the *Kadwa*, *Madhyakul* and *Kumaria* fields, and described in the said Gazetteer as the "Amta Swamps";

(*ii*) whether their attention has been drawn to the annual failure of crops and the constant outbreak of malaria and cholera in the said area and its neighbourhood, as well as to the occasional damage caused by accumulation of water to the Howrah-Amta Railway Line, passing in the neighbourhood of the said area; and

(*iii*) whether they are taking any action with a view to carrying out the Amta Drainage Scheme at an early date ?

The Hon'ble MR. FINNIMORE replied :—

(*i*) and (*ii*) "The attention of Government has been drawn from time to time to the injury to crops and to the railway line caused by floods and water-logging in the area referred to.

(*iii*) The Amta Drainage Scheme is under revision in the office of the Superintending Engineer, South-Western Circle, and the papers are expected shortly."

[*Raja Mahendra Ranjan Ray Chaudhuri; Mr. Cumming; Mr. Samman.*]

by the Hon'ble RAJA MAHENDRA RANJAN RAY CHAUDHURI :—

Scheme of Village Union Committees and President Panchayat System.

* 13. (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether a scheme of Village Union Committees and President Panchayat System has been definitely framed and actually taken in hand ?

(*b*) If so, will Government be prepared to make an announcement giving the following detailed information, namely :—

(*i*) the minimum Civil, Judicial, Criminal and Executive powers and functions entrusted to these bodies, and to what extent they are capable of being enhanced and enlarged ; and

(*ii*) the relations of the said bodies with the district officer and the district boards ?

The Hon'ble MR. CUMMING replied :—

(*a*) "No general scheme for the establishment of Village Union Committees and the extension of the President Panchayat System has been definitely framed.

(*b*) The question of the place of these bodies in the administration, their relationships with each other and their functions is under the consideration of Government."

by the Hon'ble RAJA MAHENDRA RANJAN RAY CHAUDHURI :—

Supply of pure drinking water in the mufassal.

* 14. Will the Government be pleased to state what action is being taken to ascertain the existing sources and available amount of pure drinking water in each district and what is being done to meet the requirements of each district in the direction of a good supply of pure drinking water ?

The Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN replied :—

"In November 1912, Government issued instructions to District Boards for the improvement of water-supply in rural areas, and Special Sub-Overseers working under the District Boards have been employed at the expense of Government to prepare registers of existing wells and tanks. The Sub-Overseers have not yet completed their reports. In Hooghly and Howrah, arrangements are being made for the reservation of tanks for drinking water, and other Boards have been asked to adopt similar measures. It has been pointed out to all Commissioners of Divisions that each District Board and Union Committee should begin to work on the lines suggested by Government at once without waiting for the completion of the Sub-Overseers' reports. It is not known to Government what progress has since been made."

by the Hon'ble RAJA MAHENDRA RANJAN RAY CHAUDHURI :—

Scheme for a Provincial Rural Drainage System.

* 15. Will the Government be pleased to state whether the scheme for a Provincial Rural Drainage System is under their consideration ?

The Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN replied :—

"There is no scheme for rural drainage throughout the Bengal Presidency at present before Government."

by the Hon'ble RAJA MAHENDRA RANJAN RAY CHAUDHURI :—

Survey and settlement operations.

* 16. Will the Government be pleased to state approximately the dates on which the survey and settlement operations started and completed in parts of North and East Bengal will be commenced in each of the districts yet remaining to be surveyed and settled ?

[*Mr. Kerr; Raja Mahendra Ranjan Ray Chaudhuri; Mr. Cumming.*]

The Hon'ble MR. KERR replied :—

"Survey and settlement operations have either been completed or are in progress in all the districts of the Dacca and Chittagong Divisions. In the Rajshahi Division, work has been nearly completed in the district of Jalpaiguri and was started in the Rajshahi district last season. It has not yet been settled in what order the remaining districts of the Rajshahi Division will be taken up."

by the Hon'ble RAJA MAHENDRA RANJAN RAY CHAUDHURI :—

* 17. Will the Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any steps are being taken to enforce the Wild Birds and Animals Protection Act, 1912 (VIII of 1912) strictly by penalising the shooting of certain species of birds in the breeding season, and

Enforcement the Wild Birds a Animals Protecti Act, 1912 (VIII 1912).

(*b*) whose duty it is to bring to the notice of the proper authorities the infringements of the provisions of this Act when they do occur?

The Hon'ble MR. KERR replied :—

(*a*) "The Conservator of Forests, who was consulted in the matter, has drawn up a list of the birds and animals to which he recommends that the Act should be made applicable in this Presidency. The list is being circulated to Commissioners for opinion as to its suitability to their respective Divisions and, on receipt of their reports, the necessary notifications under sections 2 and 3 of the Act will be drawn up and published.

(*b*) The Act does not impose on any one the duty of bringing to notice infringements of orders issued by Government under its provisions. It is open to any one to bring such infringements to the notice of Magistrates competent to try offences against the Act. In the reserved and protected forests, which constitute the most important breeding grounds in this Presidency, it will be the duty of the forest staff to bring to notice offences under the Act."

by the Hon'ble RAJA MAHENDRA RANJAN RAY CHAUDHURI :—

* 18. (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether the aims, objects, functions and proceedings of the Districts Administration Committee are intended to be confidential, or whether their report, findings and recommendations, as also the answers by the witnesses under examination and the questions put to them, will be published for general information when the Committee's labours are over?

Publication the proceedings the District Ac ministration Com mittee.

(*b*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether the selection of witnesses, who are being called by the Committee, is left to the choice and discretion of the President and members or is being made by the Government?

(*c*) Have Government considered the desirability of intimating beforehand to the public Press the names of the witnesses whom the Committee proposes to call?

The Hon'ble MR. CUMMING replied :—

(*a*) "The objects of the Districts Administration Committee have already been made public in the *communiqué* of the 16th October, 1913. Government are not in a position to state whether the proceedings and report of the Committee will be published.

[*Raja Mahendra Ranjan Ray Chaudhuri; Maulvi A. K. Faz-ul-Haq; Mr. Finnimore; Mr. Cumming.*]

by the Hon'ble RAJA MAHENDRA RANJAN RAY CHAUDHURI :— *contd.*

(*b*) Government are not selecting the witnesses who are being called by the Committee. The method of inquiry is left to the discretion of the Committee.

(*c*) Government are not therefore in a position to intimate beforehand to the public Press the names of witnesses to be examined."

by the Hon'ble MAULVI A. K. FAZ-UL-HAQ :—

Silting-up of the *khal* between Mansa and Alaipur.

* 19. Are the Government aware of the serious inconvenience caused to people travelling to and from Bagirhat owing to the silting-up of the *khal* between Mansa and Alaipur?

The Hon'ble MR. FINNIMORE replied :—

"The Hon'ble Member is referred to the answer given to Question V (*a*) & (*b*) put by the Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Banerji at the Council meeting of the 5th March, 1913."

by the Hon'ble MAULVI A. K. FAZ-UL-HAQ :—

Connecting Bagirhat with Khulna by railway.

* 20. (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether they are taking any steps to connect Bagirhat with Khulna by any system of railways?

(*b*) Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table the papers (if any) relating to the improvement of the communication between Bagirhat and Khulna?

The Hon'ble MR. FINNIMORE replied :—

(*a*) "The answer is in the affirmative.

(*b*) Mr. Nibaran Chandra Dutt of Calcutta has been granted a concession on rebate terms under the Branch Line Terms of 1910 to float a Branch Line Company for the construction of a 2′ 6″ gauge railway from Khulna to Bagirhat. Detailed estimates for the line are ready and the commencement of work awaits the raising of the necessary funds by the concessionaire. There are no papers giving information not contained in the above reply."

by the Hon'ble MAULVI A. K. FAZ-UL-HAQ :—

The *Bakr-Id* festival and the sacrifice of cows.

* 21. (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing the names of the villages, district by district, in which the sacrifice of cows during the *Bakr-Id* last year was prohibited by injunction or otherwise?

(*b*) Will the Government be pleased to state in each case whether the prohibition was based on any report (and if so by whom made), or on any petition, or on the Magistrate's own initiative?

The Hon'ble MR. CUMMING replied :—

"A statement is laid on the table."

[*Nawab Saiyid Hossam Haider Chaudhuri, Khan Bahadur; Mr. Samman.*]

by the Hon'ble RAJA MAHENDRA RANJAN RAY CHAUDHURI :— *concld.*

Statement referred to in the Answer by the Hon'ble Mr. Cumming to Question No. 21.

Name of Division.	District.	Villages	Whether injunction based on any report or petition made to the Magistrate or on Magistrate's own initiative.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5
Burdwan	Hooghly	Nizampur	An order of prohibition was issued on the report of the President Panchayat, and after enquiry by a Sub-Deputy Collector.	.....
		Patna	Korbani in a public place was prohibited by the District Magistrate on petitions filed by Hindus and Muhammadans.	Sacrifice was allowed inside two private houses belonging to Muhammadans.
	Howrah	Kalinagar	The order of prohibition was issued on the report of the Police.	
		Sabalpur	Order of prohibition was passed on a petition of certain Muhammadans for permission to sacrifice cows	The custom of the past years was followed, and it was necessary to issue the order to prevent breach of the peace.
Presidency ...	Khulna	Bordanga	The order of prohibition was issued on the report of the local Police.	
	Jessore	Goga ... ... Ganganandapur ... Sikri ... ... Panchkoyba ... ... Baganchra ... . Chattaharia ... . Sonadia ... ... Jeyrampur	Orders of prohibition were issued on the application of the local residents and the reports of the local Police officers.	
		Jalalabad	The sacrifice of cows was forbidden on the report of the local Police officers.	
	Nadia	Hatiya	Ditto.	
Chittagong ...	Nil ...	Nil ...	No injunction issued.	
Rajshahi	Nil ...	Nil ...	Ditto.	
Dacca	Nil ...	Nil ...	Ditto.	

by the Hon'ble NAWAB SAIYID HOSSAM HAIDER CHAUDHURI, KHAN BAHADUR :—

* 22. Will the Government be pleased to state the mode of selection of candidates for State scholarships for encouragement of technical education tenable in England, and the requisite qualification of a candidate?

Mode of selection of candidates for State scholarships.

The Hon'ble Mr. SAMMAN replied :—

"The present mode of selection of candidates for State scholarships and the qualifications required are laid down in Notification No. 133, dated the 7th January, 1913, which was published in the *Calcutta Gazette* of the 8th January, 1913. Some slight alterations in these rules are now under the consideration of Government."

[*Babu Surendra Nath Banerji; Mr. Stephenson; Raja Mahendra Ranjan Ray Chaudhuri; Maulvi A. K. Faz-ul-Haq.*]

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS.

The answers to the following questions which were unstarred were laid on the table.

by the Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI :—

Proposed abolition of the salt golas at Kidderpore.

23. (*a*) Have the Government received any memorial from certain Indian merchants dealing in salt protesting against the proposed abolition of the salt golas at Kidderpore?

(*b*) If so, will the Government be pleased to state what action they have taken or are taking in connection with this memorial?

Answer by the Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON :—

"(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The papers have been placed before the Port Facilities Committee and no further action can be taken until it is known what their recommendations are."

by the Hon'ble RAJA MAHENDRA RANJAN RAY CHAUDHURI :—

Statistics relating to Indians of this Province now residing in British South Africa.

24. (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state—

(*i*) the number of inhabitants of this Province now residing in British South Africa under the indentured labour system;

(*ii*) those continuing to reside there on the termination of indenture; and

(*iii*) those who have proceeded there and are living independently of that system?

(*b*) Will the Government be pleased to state the numbers of male and female literates and illiterates among them?

Answer by the Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON :—

"Between 1901 and 1911 thirty-one persons emigrated under indenture to Natal from the old Provinces of Bengal and Eastern Bengal. The further information desired is not available."

by the Hon'ble MAULVI A. K. FAZ-UL-HAQ :—

Statistics relating to Muhammadan students in the mufassal.

25. (*1*) Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing the following particulars about Muhammadan students in the mufassal, district by district, during the last academical year :—

(*a*) the number of students in the various schools and colleges;

(*b*) the hostel accommodation at present existing; and

(*c*) the number actually living—

(*i*) in hostels,

(*ii*) in messes,

(*iii*) with approved guardians, and

(*iv*) otherwise?

(*2*) In the last case, will the Government be pleased to state what control exists over the students concerned?

[*Mr. Samman.*]

Answer by the Hon'ble Mr. SAMMAN :—

"A statement giving the information required is laid on the table."

Statement referred to in the Answer by the Hon'ble Mr. Samman to Question No. 25.

(WEST BENGAL.)

DISTRICT.	(a) Number of students in the various schools and colleges.	(b) Hostel accommodation at present existing for	(c) NUMBER ACTUALLY LIVING— (i) in hostels.	(ii) in messes.	(iii) with approved guardians.	(iv) otherwise.	Existing control over the students concerned in case (c) (iv)
24-Parganas—		Students.					
Schools	30,392	93 (a)	55	8	29,784	545	Of 545 pupils, 26 are grown-up men reading in the night schools and 519 are students of secondary schools who live in the houses of other gentlemen who, in most cases, exercise control over the pupils.
Khulna—							
College	20	8	7	.....	13	.....	
School	28,450	60 (a)	41	.....	28,409	.....	
Jessore—							
College	2	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	
School	28,553	76 (a)	47	5	28,483	18	Living in private families.
Nadia—							
College	1	.....	.....	..	1	.....	
School	19,193	98 (a)	87	63	18,737	306	Control is exercised by teachers of the schools to which they belong or by the owners of the houses where they live.
Murshidabad—							
College	22	.....	.....	7	15	.....	
School	14,417	100	112	62	14,243	.....	
Howrah—							
College	3	16	3	.....	.....	.....	
School	8,956	Nil	.....		8,956	.....	
Hooghly—							
Hooghly College	16	20	.....	10	6	.....	
School	9,301	195	217	27	9,057	.....	
Serampore College	1	...	.....		1	.....	
Uttarpara College	1	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	
Burdwan—							
College	9	.....	.....	.....	9*	.....	* Seven live with guardians other than relation.
School	11,042	40	35	.....	11,007	.....	
Birbhum—							
College	.....	.....	.....	...	...	.....	
School	11,672	76	63	4	11,605	.....	
Bankura—							
College	2	6	1	.....	.....	.....	
School	1,760	12	2	.....	1,754	4	These 4 boys have now been taken into the Head Master's house
Midnapore—							
College	6	.....	.....	.....	6	.....	
Schools	8,666	28	23	.....	8,643	.....	There is a hostel attached to this College. It was originally intended for both Hindu and Muhammadan students, but since its opening it has been occupied by Hindus only

(a) These figures include seats for Muhammadans in hostels attached to Guru-Training Schools and Mianji Training Schools. All the 16 seats in each Mianji Training School hostel are for Muhammadans. Of the 16 seats in each hostel attached to a Guru-Training School, the number reserved for Muhammadans is not fixed, but varies according to the number of admission of Muhammadan Guru pupils each year. There are no hostels attached to Guru-Training Schools in Murshidabad and there is no Mianji Training School in that district.

[*Mr. Samman; Babu Surendra Nath Ray.*]

(EAST BENGAL.)

DISTRICT.	(a) Number of students in the various schools and colleges.	(b) Hostel accommodation at present existing for	(c) NUMBER ACTUALLY LIVING— (i) in hostels.	(ii) in messes	(iii) with approved guardians.	(iv) otherwise.	Existing control over the students concerned in case (c) (iv).
Chittagong—		Students.					
College	80	10	8	Nil	22	Nil	
Schools	36,194	151	187	143	35,102	762	The teachers supervise these students.
Tippera—							
College	62	16	16	Nil	46	Nil	
Schools	60,166	137	148	Nil	58,799	1,219	Ditto.
Noakhali—							
Schools	43,350	98	67	Nil	42,848	435	Ditto.
Dacca—							
Colleges	211	54	47	57	103	4	Live in the Baptist Mission Hostel.
Schools	50,482	531	108	138	47,494	2,442	Relatives supervise those who live with them and the teachers, those living elsewhere.
Mymensingh—							
College	62	50	39	Nil	23	Nil	
Schools	68,701	250	229	34	68,046	392	Practically none.
Bakarganj—							
College	35	Nil	Nil	Nil	33	2	The Principal and some professors visit students at home.
Schools	64,708	347	316	25	63,112	1,255	Relatives supervise those living with them and the teachers, those living elsewhere.
Faridpur—							
Schools	27,934	95	86	Nil	27,822	26	Practically none.
Rajshahi—							
College	149	28	25	57	67	Nil	
Schools	20,846	187	162	10	20,566	108	
Pabna—							
College	35	15	8	Nil	12	15	The Professor of Persian goes round twice a week and reports in writing the conduct and mode of life of the students.
Schools	26,272	31	30	Nil	26,242	Nil	
Dinajpur—							
Schools	22,373	126	111	Nil	22,262	Nil	
Rangpur—							
Schools	33,267	121	121	2	33,109	35	Practically none.
Bogra—							
Schools	27,795	22	34	12	27,749	Nil	
Jalpaiguri—							
Schools	8,329	97	46	Nil	8,283	Nil	
Darjeeling—							
Schools	432	20	5	Nil	425	2	Practically none.
Malda—							
Schools	9,584	68	65	29	9,490	Nil	

by the Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH RAY:—

Statement of funds devoted to Public Works in the subdivisions of Hooghly since the promulgation of the Cess Act (Bengal Act IX of 1880).

26. Will the Government be pleased to place on the table a comparative statement of the funds devoted since the promulgation of the Cess Act (Bengal Act IX of 1880) to Public Works in the three subdivisions under the Hooghly District Board and also of the cesses paid by each of the said subdivisions?

[*Mr. Samman.*]

Answer by the Hon'ble Mr. SAMMAN :—

"Two statements (A and B) furnishing the information as far as available are laid on the table."

Statement (A) referred to in the Answer by the Hon'ble Mr. Samman to Question No. 26.

Year.	Sadar.	Serampore.	Arambagh.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1880-81 ...	18,703	15,967	8,875
1881-82 ...	13,598	17,185	1,889
1882-83 ...	56,872	53,545	4,779
1883-84 ...	51,049	53,199	7,249
1884-85 ...	36,549	26,695	4,248
1885-86 ...	26,655	21,907	8,445
1886-87 ...	19,006	6,911	5,449
1887-88 ...	18,757	21,073	8,478
1888-89 ...	29,194	27,655	5,044
1889-90 ...	19,351	58,561	3,068
1890-91 ...	59,586	26,023	6,178
1891-92 ...	37,536	23,683	12,471
1892-93 ...	36,603	15,575	9,039
1893-94 ...	28,111	17,500	5,960
1894-95 ...	39,644	29,232	21,933
1895-96 ...	36,665	24,200	24,150
1896-97 ...	30,533	23,350	6,103
1897-98 ...	37,221	23,670	5,958
1898-99 ...	27,937	21,292	8,168
1899-00 ...	39,646	21,755	12,370
1900-01 ...	37,981	31,331	9,655
1901-02 ...	28,185	33,209	11,959
1902-03 ...	41,960	27,746	11,915
1903-04 ...	12,239	30,836	9,303
1904-05 ...	11,198	27,176	10,282
1905-06 ...	33,550	24,566	9,850
1906-07 ...	46,025	29,037	14,673
1907-08 ...	41,876	12,632	15,855
1908-09 ...	41,841	49,733	17,843
1909-10 ...	48,285	41,543	21,557
1910-11 ...	62,253	49,595	18,227
1911-12 ...	58,654	51,309	11,422
1912-13 ...	42,606	56,694	14,908
Total ...	12,59,869	10,24,688	3,47,303

NOTE.—(*a*) Figures of expenditure on village roads are not available from 1880-81 to 1888-89.
(*b*) Figures of expenditure on village roads under Local Boards have been included in the figures shown under each subdivision from 1889-90 to 1912-13.

ement (B) referred to in the Answer by the Hon'ble Mr. Samman to Question No. 26.

SUBDIVISION.	1906-07.	1907-08	1908-09	1909-10.	1910-11.	1911-12.	1912-13
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
.. ..	73,522 3 9	73,610 8 11	71,954 10 1	70,386 9 9	68,507 11 7	68,102 5 10	69,671 5 8
ore	63,383 11 7	64,191 4 7	64,017 8 10	64,548 10 3	60,900 12 4	61,228 11 0	62,338 0 1
igh	23,088 7 3	21,124 0 11	22,579 10 9	18,243 13 6	16,397 15 4	16,291 12 2	16,147 9 11

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[*Mr. Samman; Babu Surendra Nath Ray.*]

(EAST BENGAL.)

DISTRICT.	(a) Number of students in the various schools and colleges.	(b) Hostel accommodation at present existing for	(c) NUMBER ACTUALLY LIVING— (i) in hostels.	(ii) in messes	(iii) with approved guardians.	(iv) otherwise.	Existing control over the students concerned in case (c) (iv).
Chittagong—		Students.					
College	30	10	8	Nil	22	Nil	
Schools	36,194	151	187	143	35,102	762	The teachers supervise these students.
Tippera—							
College	62	16	16	Nil	46	Nil	
Schools	60,166	137	148	Nil	58,799	1,219	Ditto.
Noakhali—							
Schools	43,350	98	67	Nil	42,848	435	Ditto.
Dacca—							
Colleges	211	54	47	57	103	4	Live in the Baptist Mission Hostel.
Schools	50,482	531	408	138	47,494	2,442	Relatives supervise those who live with them and the teachers, those living elsewhere.
Mymensingh—							
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Statement (B) referred to in the Answer by the Hon'ble Mr. Samman to Question No. 26.

Subdivision.	1906-07.	1907-08.	1908-09.	1909-10.	1910-11.	1911-12.	1912-13.
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
... ...	73,522 3 9	73,610 8 11	71,951 10 1	70,386 9 9	68,507 11 7	68,102 5 11	69,671 5 6
...pore	63,383 11 7	64,191 4 7	64,017 8 10	64,548 10 3	60,900 12 4	61,228 11 6	62,338 0 1
...bagh	23,088 7 8	21,124 0 11	22,579 10 9	18,243 13 6	16,397 15 4	16,281 12 2	16,147 9 11

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LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS.

THE CHITTAGONG PORT BILL, 1914.

List of Business—Item No. 3. The Hon'ble Mr. Lyon moved that the Chittagong Port Bill, 1914, be referred to a Select Committee consisting of the Hon'ble Mr. Finnimore, the Hon'ble Mr. Newbould, the Hon'ble Mr. Vernon Woods, the Hon'ble Babu Upendra Lal Ray, the Hon'ble Mr. Martin and the mover, with instructions to circulate their report in time for its consideration in Council at the meeting to be held on the 27th February 1914.

The motion was put and agreed to.

THE BENGAL MEDICAL BILL, 1914.

List of Business—Item No. 4.

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON said :— "I beg to move that the Bengal Medical Bill, 1914, be referred to a Select Committee. In doing so, I would like to add to the names of the Committee the Hon'ble Nawab Sir Khwaja Salimullah Bahadur and the Hon'ble Rai Priya Nath Mukherjee Bahadur. Since the names of this Select Committee were first put forward, it has been represented to Government that the Committee is perhaps rather small for a Bill which is of such importance, and that it is desirable that a representative Muhammadan opinion should be put on the Committee. I therefore have great pleasure in proposing that these two names be added to the Committee. I therefore move that the Bengal Medical Bill, 1914, be referred to a Select Committee consisting of the Hon'ble Colonel Harris, the Hon'ble Mr. Newbould, the Hon'ble Rai Priya Nath Mukherjee Bahadur, the Hon'ble Nawab Sir Khwaja Salimullah Bahadur, the Hon'ble Dr. Nilratan Sircar, the Hon'ble Raja Shoshi Kanta Acharyya Chaudhuri, Bahadur, the Hon'ble Mr. Grice and myself, with instructions to circulate their report in time for its consideration in Council at the meeting to be held on the 27th February 1914."

List of Business—Item No. 4A. The Hon'ble Maulvi Faz-ul-Haq moved, by way of amendment to the above, that the consideration of the Bengal Medical Bill, 1914, be postponed for a period of three months, and that, in the meantime, the Bill be widely circulated for discussion and criticism.

He said :—

"It is with some confidence that I commend this amendment to the consideration of this House. I know that the opinions of an overwhelming majority of the non-official members are on my side, and I believe that the criticisms which have been directed against the Bill, during the last few days from many responsible public platforms, must have convinced the Hon'ble Member in charge that the provisions of the Bill are not so innocuous as they seem to be, and that they may have to be very thoroughly recast if they are to achieve the purpose for which the Bill is being passed into law. I do not propose, my Lord, at the present moment, to enter into any detailed discussion as to the provisions of the Bill. I know that we will all have time to do that when the Bill has emerged out of the Select Committee. The very simple question which we have to consider this morning is whether a case has been made out for a postponement of the Bill, for a short period, in order to allow public opinion to be focussed on a piece of legislation which vitally affects not only the medical profession, but the general public.

"My Lord, it was my intention, when I sent notice of this amendment, to have moved a substantive resolution that the papers relating to this Bill might be laid on the table of this House. This resolution has been ruled out of time, but I am glad, my Lord, that the papers have been circulated to us,

[*Maulvi Faz-ul-Haq.*]

although somewhat late. I may say that a perusal of these papers has rather strengthened me in my belief that the consideration of the Bill should be postponed for a fuller and a further discussion by the public before it is referred to a Select Committee. My Lord, I find from the Statement of Objects and Reasons that the Bill is intended, *firstly*, to provide a means of protecting the public and the medical profession from irregularly qualified practitioners, whose training in medical science has been obtained in unrecognised institutions, and, *secondly*, to afford facilities for ascertaining whether any medical practitioner possesses recognised qualifications. With these objects we are all in perfect sympathy, but I think that the safeguards which the Bill provides, to prevent the public from being imposed upon by quacks and other unlicensed medical practitioners, are of an illusory character. I have spoken rather bluntly, because I want to use words which will convey the meaning which I want the words to convey, and because I do not believe in the language of any halting or half-hearted criticism.

I find, my Lord, from the papers that have been circulated to members that there are four sets. The first set, my Lord, contains the opinions recorded by nine associations; the second set the opinions of five Commissioners of the five Divisions, the third set the opinions of certain medical officers of Government, while the fourth set is a copy of a protest recorded at a public meeting by certain homœopathic practitioners. I also find, my Lord, to give a specific instance, that amongst the Muhammadan associations which have been consulted, are the Muhammadan Literary Society of Calcutta and the Central National Muhammadan Association. It seems to me very strange that, in taking the public opinion of a certain class of the community on a piece of such important legislation, the opinion of the Moslem League should have been ignored. I cannot account for this, and more so because, though it may be news to many members of this House, the two associations whose opinions have been taken are practically controlled by persons who are themselves Government servants. The Secretaries of the two associations, the Muhammadan Literary Society and the Central National Muhammadan Association, are both Government servants. Now, my Lord, if opinion is taken of a public body, it simply stultifies the object for which it is taken, if it is the opinion of a body which is practically run by a Government servant. It is therefore not the opinion of the non-official public, nor that of non-official Muhammadans, whose opinion ought to have been sought through the Moslem League. I mention this fact, my Lord, in order to point out one important omission by way of example.

I was very glad to hear this morning that our esteemed leader, the Hon'ble Nawab Sir Khwaja Salimullah Bahadur, is to be on the Select Committee, but that is a matter touching the passage of the Bill through the Select Committee. Our object is not simply to consider at the present moment the details of the Bill, but whether we should not consider the very principle underlying the Bill, and for that object the opinion of responsible bodies, specially responsible Muhammadan non-official organizations, should be sought before the Bill is referred to a Select Committee.

As I read the Bill, my Lord, I think that its effect will be not to encourage medical practitioners, not to encourage a large number of students to resort to the medical profession, but really to put a brake on the progress of medical instruction in this Presidency. I think, my Lord, that a result like that would be disastrous. Those of us, who are acquainted with the condition of affairs in the mufassal, know that for miles and miles around in those villages, the people suffer not from an excess of medical practitioners, but from the want of real medical help and aid. I think, therefore, my Lord, that if I am correct in saying that the result of this Bill would be to hamper medical instruction, it should not merely be thoroughly recast, but should be abandoned altogether; because if there is any profession whose fecundity should be stifled by legislation, it is not the medical profession, but it may be the other profession to which I have the honour to belong—I mean the profession of law. I think,

[*Rai Nalinaksha Basu Bahadur; Babu Surendra Nath Banerji.*]

my Lord, I have said enough to start a discussion on the subject. I know there are several other members who wish to say something on the proposed Bill, and I know that I shall have a further opportunity of replying when the other members of this Council have had their say on the subject."

The Hon'ble Rai NALINAKSHA BASU Bahadur, said :—

"I beg to support the amendment moved by my hon'ble friend, Maulvi A. K. Faz-ul-Haq, that the consideration of the Bengal Medical Bill, 1914, be postponed for a period of three months, and in the meantime the Bill be widely circulated for discussion and criticism.

"My Lord, I come from the mufassal and I can assure your Lordship that the great majority of the people of the mufassal are not even aware that a Bill on the subject has been under consideration. As the Bill introduces a measure which has been unknown to this country even from the most ancient time, the people should be given an ample opportunity first to know its contents and then to take into their consideration whether its provisions are beneficial to them or detrimental to their interests. The Bill, if passed into law, will not only affect the medical practitioners, but also the public at large for whose interests the medical men are trained. There can be no doubt that the interests of the public are as deserving of consideration as those of the medical profession. Quacks and other unqualified practitioners are as a rule not entitled to any sympathy, but it must be admitted that, owing to paucity of duly qualified practitioners, the public cannot do without them. In comparison, the qualified medical practitioners are in a miscroscopic minority to the unqualified doctors, and any attempt to deprive the latter of the privilege of treating medical cases would no doubt lead to disastrous consequences. True it is that the Bill does not now make any such attempt, but it must not be forgotten that the provisions of the Bill are looked upon as the thin end of the wedge. Moreover, the Bill is entirely silent as regards homoeopathic doctors and men who have already been, and who are now, trained in the several medical institutions not recognised by Government up to this time. In the circumstances, I beg to support the amendment."

The Hon'ble Babu SURENDRA NATH BANERJI said :—

"I desire to associate myself with the amendment which has just been moved by my hon'ble friend. I think a strong case has been made out for a postponement of this measure. My friend has referred to the Moslem League, which has not been consulted. I find from inquiries, which I have just made, that there are one or two other associations which are entitled to be consulted by Government, but which have not been consulted in connection with this matter, for instance, the Bengal Landholders' Association. I understand that that body has not been consulted. My friend behind me has just told us that the people in the mufassal know little about this Bill. There are two aspects of the Bill, one affecting the medical profession, and the other the general public. I think we are bound to take into consideration both these aspects of the Bill, and, looking at the matter from this standpoint, it seems to me that a case, and a very strong case, has been made out for the postponement of the measure. There have been several protests addressed to the Government. I have got copies of them in my file in which the memorialists expressed themselves in terms of alarm and apprehension in regard to the actual working of this Bill. I think, Sir, having regard to the anxiety, and, I may almost add, the sense of unrest and uneasiness which has been raised by this proposal, it is a matter of the first importance that time should be given for a discussion, for, if the alarm and anxiety are unfounded, discussion will remove them, and if you hurry the matter through, for which there is not the smallest justification, it will deepen the sense of public anxiety and apprehension which is now felt. There is no real urgency about this Bill. If it is postponed for two or three months, I do not think that any very serious harm will be done to any interest. We have gone on without a measure of this kind for 50 years, and I think, if we can go on for another six months, no serious consequences will follow. Therefore it

[*Dr. Deba Prasad Sarbadhikari.*]

seems to me, in view of the sense of fear and anxiety which has been awakened, of the ignorance of the general public with regard to the contents of the Bill that is before us, that a strong case has been made out for a postponement of this measure, and I hope and trust that my hon'ble friend in charge of the Bill will not object to the proposal of the mover of this amendment. I am quite satisfied that the effect of further discussion will be to remove whatever defects there may be, to allay public excitement and uneasiness and facilitate the passage of this Bill, so as to ensure for it the largest measure of public support when the Bill becomes the law of the land."

The Hon'ble DR. DEBA PRASAD SARBADHIKARI said :—

"I do not know, my Lord, whether the proposal for postponement will be accepted, or whether it will prevail if not accepted. We have therefore to consider the merits of the substantive proposal before us, that is, that the Bill be referred to a Select Committee. Important questions of principle arising out of the Bill have to be considered to a certain extent at this stage. On the question of postponement, it is hardly necessary to say more beyond calling attention to the rapidly-growing literature within the last few days round this important question, not only in public meetings and in the press, not only in memorials and representations, but also in the evidence in discussions before the Public Services Commission, which is more than incidentally considering just now important aspects of the question. These are materials, my Lord, that will help in the elucidation of questions of principle that must govern us before we consent to refer the Bill to a Select Committee. The Statement of Objects and Reasons refers to the need of protecting the public and the medical profession.

"The phrase 'medical profession' in the Bill is ostensibly and overtly used in regard to one section of the medical profession, the most important now, and the one recognized by the Government. As has been pointed out, other important sections of the profession have however been left out, and probably have had to be, viz., the homœopathic, the *kaviraji*, the *hakimi* and other systems that have held the board long, and are still holding, and will hold, the board for a long time. One naturally recalls to mind the gracious words of His Majesty the King-Emperor encouraging progress on modern lines while conserving and improving what is best of the olden times, and that can only be done under the fostering care of the Government. It may be that there is no agency now at hand to control medical education, with regard to those three important branches of the profession to which I have referred, but, if they are recognized branches of the medical profession, recognized so far as the public are concerned, though, not by the Government, some agency will have to be found which will control those branches, because public interests are quite as affected there as in the case of those who are treated under the allopathic system. Allopathic and homœopathic systems have their own institutions which the Government do not yet recognize and so have the *kavirajes*; I do not know any thing about the *hakims*, but I dare say they have also got some sort of institutions. If they have not they probably would have if the situation demanded it. But to leave alone for all time systems that largely prevail and will prevail is no remedy, supposing there is a real strong case for effective legislative interference.

"My Lord, there is another branch of the question relating to what are deemed qualified practitioners, who are qualified as holders of allopathic degrees, but who have chosen to take to homœopathy or to *kaviraji*. This body is daily growing and the Bill is silent with regard to them. The matter will probably be left to the Council which will not be satisfactory, considering how these questions are dealt with in other spheres where, for example, members of the homœopathic or the *kaviraji* profession are not considered eligible as members of the medical faculty. There may be good reasons for such exclusion in that particular sphere, but when we are considering questions of importance to the public, like a Medical Registration Bill, supposing need for it really exists, a general aspect of things has to prevail and not a sectional aspect like that to which I am now referring.

[*Dr. Deba Prasad Sarbadhikari.*]

"Then there is the question of the constitution of the Council itself. We find that the official majority is overwhelming there. References have been made to the Bombay Act because in these matters light comes from the 'West.' Reference might also have been made to the Madras Act which follows the English legislature on the subject. In both these Acts, supposing they are to guide us, we find a state of things somewhat different from that provided in this Bill. The non-official minority is much stronger there than that allowed here. This matter the Select Committee could hardly go into unless some sort of instructions are given by the Council.

"Then again there is the question as to whether the nomination of the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman is to be left to the Bill itself or whether they are to be nominated by the members?

"There is another important provision in the Bill regarding the power of the Council to disqualify and remove from the registration list all those who are guilty of infamous or unprofessional conduct. No definition of the words 'infamous conduct' and 'unprofessional conduct' find place in any of the provisions of the Bill. In the present state of things, at all events, it is more than undesirable, to leave the whole question to a Council constituted as it is proposed by the Bill when important and delicate questions must constantly arise between official and non-official members of the Council. Even commonplace safeguards for the representation and defence of the accused are not provided. It is a question that will also seriously affect the public in various ways in the matter of professional etiquette and fees. I do not for a moment question that the intention of the Government is most excellent in introducing the Bill. I remember putting a question myself not long ago as to when the Bill was expected to be introduced in Council. Of course, we were in expectation of a measure that would answer all requisitions in the public mind. This Bill does not do that, and, those who asked for bread, have got a stone or something nearly allied. The Bill, as it stands, answers no requirements, and a glorified Medical Directory of the allopathic profession is not what had been bargained for, nor is it needed. Non-official public opinion has already spoken out as strongly as possible on the question. Having regard to all these considerations, it is of the utmost importance that some instructions should emanate from this Council with regard to important questions of principle like those which I have indicated, and that can only be done after the Government has gone into the body of literature that is growing round the question. That is why the postponement is necessary.

"We know, my Lord, there are medical practitioners who make one recall to mind a story from the north of Scotland. A cockney registered doctor, being surprised that there was no registered medical man there, was told that the people thereabouts all died a natural death. There is, however, no reason why quackery should be recognized or encouraged by legislation, if effective and comprehensive control is possible. As has been observed, the present legislation does not try to interfere with any amount of quackery that may go on. It will go on in spite of any Bill that we may think fit to pass if it is so entirely one-sided as this one is. The Bill confines itself to qualified doctors and medical practitioners of one particular class in whose interest it is supposed to be enacted. But, as it turns out, they are most anxious not to have it, and cry out to be saved from their friends if all the friendship and protection that can be offered is what is provided in the Bill. It is true that we cannot take a large outlook all at once of every matter that comes before us; we can only go step by step, and one step at a time is all one can think of. But that step ought to be effective and capable of leading to another.

"Confining ourselves therefore to the very question that this Bill deals with, there are very grave apprehensions as to whether it will meet all the circumstances of the case. Having regard to its provisions I only hope it will not come about that the people who regard it with apprehension can only say that we get very little out of it and that we do not propose to be registered. It is an attitude which it is impossible to sympathise with, but it is not impossible to conceive. What do they gain? They will be allowed to give some sort of a certificate under some Acts mentioned in one of the

[*Dr. Deba Prasad Sarbadhikari; Babu Mahendra Nath Ray.*]

clauses. But, as is the case now, they will not be able to sign a certificate in the case of officers drawing salaries above Rs. 50, which will have, as now, to be countersigned by gentlemen belonging to the superior branches of the profession. Then again are any scheduled appointments going to be opened out to them by mere virtue of the registration? Are the privileges enjoyed by the registered practitioners in England, who can sit for the Indian Medical Service examination, to be extended to them? None of these substantial benefits are going to be conferred, and yet there are openings and loopholes in abundance to their prejudice, which many practitioners regard with apprehension. I have therefore spoken out most unequivocally on this point. I was present at a meeting of medical practitioners last night and I came away with a feeling that the anxiety pervading the whole of the allopathic branch of the medical profession is grave and that has got to be taken into consideration. The Bill does not purport to do more than deal with their case, and their case, at all events, should be dealt with in all possible ways if the Bill is to have any justification, even if the other branches are left alone.

These matters have not been adequately taken into consideration so far because of the lack of adequate information. Such information, however, is now forthcoming, but has not been availed of. My Lord, all these considerations make us think that a postponement is necessary. I can assure your Lordship that those who support this amendment are not lacking in sympathy with the object of the proposed legislation. They demur because that object is not being and will not be carried out. We have not enough doctors for our people, and many who are doing excellent work will be excluded from registration. Medical education in this country needs strengthening and supplementing and to that means we have to cast about for the real solution of our difficulties. The Government are doing a great deal and intends to do a great deal more in the near future for the promotion of non-official education. They realise that the official machinery is not adequate to cope with the needs of the situation. They have very sympathetically taken in the true situation and conferences have been held and the question has been gone into carefully, and we hope that a better state of things will prevail. Therefore it will not be right—nay, it would be absolutely wrong—to question the good intentions of the Government with regard to this legislation; but unless the matter is handled with care and tact, realization of the very objects that the unfriendly critics are attributing to this Bill will come about. We are anxious, my Lord, that that should not be the case, and therefore a very careful consideration of the measure is needed."

The Hon'ble Babu MAHENDRA NATH RAY said:—

"My Lord, if the members of this Council are not opposed to the principle which is embodied in the Bill it would not be proper to resist a reference to the Select Committee. With regard to this aspect of the question the opinion which I have formed is that the scope of the Bill is not comprehensive enough, and that, while the Statement of Objects and Reasons indicates that certain branches of the medical profession will not be affected, the Bill which has been framed will, I apprehend, substantially affect them. This is a matter affecting the principle of the Bill, and if some of us disapprove of that principle we would be justified in resisting a reference to the Select Committee.

"With regard to the other matters which have been discussed, they are all matters of detail and they may be well discussed either in Select Committee or in Council when we have received the report of the Select Committee.

"With regard to the amendment which has been moved by my hon'ble friend, the amendment can only be justified on the ground that the public had not sufficient time to study the provisions of the Bill. The Bill, no doubt, has been before the members of the Council for a sufficiently long time, but there are a very large body of men interested in the Bill outside the Council, and if I may judge from what I gathered at a very largely attended meeting of medical men last evening, to which reference has already been made by a previous speaker, I was surprised to find that most of the

members who attended that meeting were unaware of the contents of the Bill. They had a vague apprehension that something was being done which would affect their privileges and would affect their interests in the profession largely. When I put to many of them the question as to whether they knew how the provisions of the Bill were going to affect them, most of them confessed that they had not yet an opportunity of studying the provisions of the Bill and most of them said that they had not had a copy of the Bill circulated to them to enable them to study it. If the experience I gathered last evening be the general experience of a large body of practitioners and others in the mufassal interested in this matter then I am afraid the provisions of the Bill have not yet been adequately considered either by the large number of men who practise the profession of Medicine or a large number of the public who are interested in this measure, and if that be so there is absolutely no reason why the postponement sought for by my hon'ble friend in his amendment should not be agreed to by your Excellency's Government. This, my Lord, is all I have got to say."

The Hon'ble DR. NILRATAN SIRCAR said :—

"My Lord, some of my hon'ble friends have approved wholesale the Statement of the Objects and Reasons of this Bill. I confess that I am not in a position to do so. My Lord, there are 56,667 persons in Bengal who practise the healing art for a living, and the Government has up to the present time trained about 4,000 men, who practise as qualified doctors in this country only: so that there are still about 52,000 or more practitioners who have to be replaced by men with medical training. I fail to see the wisdom of branding these schools and their students publicly as being dangers to the Indian public. So far as the public are concerned I do not know that they ever approached the Government with a prayer for protection against this class of practitioners. Neither do I know about medical practitioners generally; but, so far as our section of medical practitioners is concerned, I do not believe anybody has ever complained to the Government against these schools or their students. Some of these schools have been in existence for the last 25 years and have received encouragement from the Government. Successive Lieutenant-Governors of Bengal graced their list of patrons, and now and then pecuniary grants were made to some of them. Though they had no direct recognition by the Government, the promoters of some of these schools have always acted with a lively sense of their responsibilities, so much so, that one of them, I may be permitted to observe, during the last 25 years passed only 300 students. It would ordinarily be expected that these students, who had a regular course of medical training for at least four years in a school, and who in their humble way were trying to further the progress of the medical profession in this country, should be recognised at least in the same way as the Government Military Assistant Surgeons of former days, who had only a three years' training. My Lord, instead of that what do we find? We find that these schools as well as the students are publicly branded as being dangers to society.

"The next point I would draw your Lordship's attention to is the reservation of large powers by the Local Government in comparison to the meagre ones that are proposed to be given to the Council. When we compare the Calcutta Bill with the Bombay Act and the Madras Bill we find a striking difference. Questions that will be finally decided in the Bombay Council and in the Madras Council will be decided in Calcutta only by the Local Government. Questions, for instance, relating to the appointment of officers, alteration in the schedule, making rules and regulations, will all be decided by the Local Government in Bengal.

"The third point which concerns me most is the question of domination not only official but departmental of the whole profession by a particular department of Government. My Lord, I am not against a Bill for registration of practitioners. The Bill has appeared in such a shape that it is impossible for me and my fellow practitioners to support it. Now the statutory appointment of superior officers of a particular department as President and

[*Dr. Nilratan Sircar; Maulvi Mazar-ul Anwar Chaudhuri; Maharaja Ranajit Sinha of Nashipur.*]

Vice-President supported by a statutory majority of officers of the same department in the Council may be an efficient and convenient arrangement for the department, but where is the justice of it? The private practitioners will not gain anything by this Bill. They will have to lose something; if nothing else they will have to pay a small fee which will be a taxation upon them. In spite of that, what do they get? They have to place themselves under the fostering care of the Military Medical Department of Bengal. My Lord, if the Bill be altered and a non-official majority granted on the Council, I think everyone of us will be only too glad to have ourselves recognised as registered practitioners. When we compare the Bombay Act with this Bill we are at once struck with the difference. There we find thirteen members, and as a matter of fact only five officers of the Indian Medical Service have been appointed on the Council, the remaining eight are Indians. Though the Act there lays down that the Government should nominate six members and the practitioners should nominate six, and that the Government should appoint a President, the Government have actually nominated five Indian Medical Service officers and two Indians and the practitioners have nominated six Indians, so that there are eight Indians to five Indian Medical Service men. Instead of that in this Bill it is proposed that there should be four Indian Medical Service men to be appointed by Statutory provisions. The Inspector-General is to be the President always; then the Principal of the Medical College is to be the Vice-President: two other members of the Indian Medical Service should be *ex-officio* members and another member, the representative of the Medical College Council, will be the fifth Indian Medical Service officer on the Council; so that there will be only four other seats on the Council that are to be left to those outside the Indian Medical Service. If we compare the number of independent Indian as well as European practitioners with that of the Indian Medical Service officers we will at once find the iniquity of this arrangement. There are some 62 or 63 officers here in Bengal and they are to shape the destinies of the whole profession. Now, my Lord, I confess that we Indian practitioners do not easily find ourselves reconciled to the idea of accepting the head of the Indian Medical Service in Bengal as the head of the profession here. Accordingly we ask for a little time to consider the matter, and get ourselves reconciled to the idea; then perhaps we may have to accept the situation."

The Hon'ble MAULVI MAZAR-UL ANWAR CHAUDHURI said :—

"My Lord, there is hardly any great necessity to dilate on the effects of the Bill further. In my opinion a strong case has been made out for the postponement for consideration of this measure which affects the interests of the public very greatly indeed. Various defects in the provisions of the Bill have been pointed out, but there is one defect as to which I wish to draw attention in this House, namely, the inability of all but registered practitioners to give a death certificate. So far as our experience goes in cholera cases, the Indians call in the aid of homœopathic practitioners and in the case of towns which have municipalities a death certificate is required. If these practitioners are debarred from granting a death certificate the public, although having faith in homœopathy, would have to, in the case of cholera, call in the aid of an allopathic doctor for the purpose of a certificate. In these circumstances I think a strong case has been made out for the postponement of the Bill."

The Hon'ble MAHARAJA RANAJIT SINHA of Nashipur said :—

"My Lord, the substantive motion before the Council is that the Bill be referred to a Select Committee and I think this is the proper time to discuss the principle of the Bill. From the Objects and Reasons appended to the Bill itself it appears that the intention is to help the public in knowing who are qualified practitioners. But I find that the Bill affects only those persons who practise under the allopathic system. It is a well known fact that the people also resort to other systems of treatment, I mean *Kaviraji*, homœopathy and *Hakimi*, and there are very renowned men in those

[*Maharaja Ranajit Sinha of Nashipur; Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur.*]

professions. It cannot be said that those systems of medicine are defective and that they cannot cure patients, because in several cases we find that where allopathic doctors have failed in curing a disease, other practitioners have been successful, so I think some provision should also be made for the registration of medical practitioners who practise under different systems of medicine. Then, my Lord, I find that the Bill does not go far enough in the regulation of Western systems of medicine. It does not restrict the quacks from practising, who will flourish as ever, and I think they are in fact a source of danger to the public. It may be said that if they are prevented from practising, the mufassal people will be put to great hardship and inconvenience, but in my humble opinion some beginning might have been made at least in the municipal towns where there are a great many qualified doctors.

"Then, my Lord, I find that qualified medical practitioners do not derive any special advantage or benefit by registering their names. They will have to pay a small taxation in the way of registration fees, but will not derive any corresponding advantage, except that they will be able to grant certificates. I think some special privilege should also be given to them.

"Then as regards the constitution of the Medical Council I find the non-official element will be in a hopeless minority. I think we should at least follow the Bombay system and have the same proportion of non-official members in our Medical Council as it is in Bombay and Madras. My Lord, there is a general feeling of consternation amongst many practitioners and they are afraid lest they will be debarred from practice, and there are many who have not been able to form their opinion as they could not read the Bill thoroughly, and so there can be no hardship in postponing the measure; but of course personally I am not at all anxious that it should be postponed because ample opportunity will be available to those who would like to submit their suggestions to the Select Committee. With these observations I beg to support the substantive motion that the Bill be referred to a Select Committee."

The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL Bahadur said:—

"I might say at once, my Lord, that the Bill, practically speaking, has recently come to the notice of the public. I mean it was criticised in newspapers and it came to the notice of the public. For my part I can inform your Lordship that not a few medical practitioners living in my part of the town called at my residence in order to see what provisions this Bill contained. There is a vague apprehension, which is perhaps unjustified, among many of the medical practitioners that those who have not degrees from the Medical College or similar institutions will be prevented from practising in the city and elsewhere. That is a vague apprehension, and one which I have been able to dispel by placing in their hands a copy of the Bill. That shows, my Lord, that the public are not fully cognisant of the contents of the Bill, and that shows the necessity of postponing it in order to enable the public to know what the Bill contains. Not only will it be good for the public but it will be also good for the Government. The good intentions of the Government will be made clear to them when they peruse the contents of the Bill.

"There is another matter to which I wish to draw attention. The intention of the Government is very clear and is no doubt laudable, but there is one passage in the speech of the mover of the Bill which shows that the Bill emanated from the representations made by the Faculty of Medicine, the Calcutta University, the Council of the Medical College, the Medical Section of the Asiatic Society and the Medical Association. My Lord, I wish to point out that all these represent allopathic practitioners. Though, of course, there is no personal animus between allopaths and homœopaths, but still we know that there is a feeling of rivalry and jealousy. We find in our society that members of our community practising allopathy have some sort of jealousy for those practising homœopathy. What we feel is this, that when it comes to be generally known, as it no doubt will be, that this Bill has emanated from the suggestion of the allopaths, of which my hon'ble friend Dr. Nilratan Sircar is a distinguished member, it will naturally raise a

[*Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur; Maulvi A. K. Faz-ul-Haq.*]

suspicion in other minds, unless they see the contents of the Bill and examine them. My Lord, I remember a most famous occasion when the allopathic practitioners of Calcutta, assembled at a meeting of the Calcutta University, wanted to oust and, in fact, succeeded in ousting, a distinguished member of the Homœopathic School, the celebrated Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar, from the Faculty of Medicine of the Calcutta University. My Lord, I remember that he was an M.D. of the Calcutta University, but that he took to homœopathy and practised it very successfully. My Lord, when the members of the Faculty of Medicine succeeded in ousting him, there was a tremendous agitation in the town. I think that that belief has to a certain extent subsided, though we do not know whether that feeling still pervades the allopathic practitioners of the day. My Lord, I wish to point out another fact, and it is this, that there were men who had distinguished themselves in the past as successful medical practitioners and who were preferred to the eminent practitioners who had got degrees of the Calcutta University. For instance, we have all heard of the name of the late celebrated Dr Durga Charan Banarji, the father of our illustrious countryman Babu Surendra Nath Banarji Although we have not seen him but we all know that he was only a student of the third year of the Medical College. But, my Lord, he was a most successful practitioner, and it has been handed down, from our fathers and grandfathers that the public had such implicit confidence in his skill that almost a general belief prevailed that whenever he touched the threshold of any house, the patient was at once cured. My Lord, such was his reputation and such was his success, and God had gifted him with such power in curing diseases. My Lord, these are circumstances which ought to lead us to pause.

"Then, there is another matter which ought to be considered. I do not want to take up the time of the Council, but I would only submit that the homœopathic practitioners are in high favour in our society. There is no provision for the registration of homœopathic practitioners nor for members of the *kaviraji* system of medicine, which is also coming into great prominence now-a-days. My Lord, there is no provision for the registration of these schools, and when it is laid down that no certificate given by any practitioner, other than those who are registered under this Bill, will be deemed valid, this might lead to great disadvantage and great hardship to our countrymen. I do not find, as far as I can understand from the Bill, that there is any provision which affects our community more vitally than this power given to the registered practitioners only to give certificates. A poor man in the *bustees* in Calcutta has got a homœopathic practitioner to attend a cholera case and the patient dies, and if his certificate is not deemed valid, the poor man will have to pay an L.M.S. or an M.B. of the Calcutta University Rs. 1 to get a death certificate. I am sure, my Lord, that the Government will consider all these points in the Select Committee, and as the intention of the Government is not to restrict, as has been stated by the Hon'ble mover of this amendment, practitioners other than those registered under the Bill, I am sure that these points will have due consideration at the hands of the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill."

The Hon'ble MAULVI A. K. FAZ-UL-HAQ said :—

"My Lord, I do not wish to take up the time of this house by repeating what has already been said by the Hon'ble Members who have spoken. I would not have said anything at all had not one, at least of the non-official members been in favour of referring this Bill to the Select Committee. My Lord, I always thought that the official members on this side of the House did not need any protection from the non-official members on the other side. I think, my Lord, that the Hon'ble Member has just forgotten that the reason for which I pray for a postponement is not that I wish to hamper a useful and beneficent piece of legislation, but because I feel convinced that a short postponement will allow the general public to discuss not the details, but the principles of the Bill. My Lord, therein lies the difference between a discussion by the general public of the Bill as a whole, and a discussion of the detailed provisions of the Bill in the

[*Maulvi A. K. Faz-ul-Haq; Mr. Stephenson.*]

Select Committee. It may be said that after the Bill has been referred to a Select Committee, people are quite at liberty to send in their remarks and their criticisms to the Select Committee; and we have no doubt that the members of the Select Committee will thoroughly realise their responsibility in the matter and bring to bear on their deliberations all their own personal experience and all that they may gather from what they come to know, not only from responsible members of the public, but from public associations and other public bodies. But then, my Lord, the general public will not naturally come forward with their suggestions, and as a matter of fact they do not. We have been told by one of the speakers that it was only recently that even members of the medical profession came to know what the Bill was about, and we have also been told that even so late as last night there were members of the medical profession who had not seen the Bill at all. This may be very regrettable and even reprehensible, but things are what they are. If I may say so, my Lord, perhaps we, people of the East, generally fail to appreciate the activities of the forward-moving West, and sometimes I find that if the slow-moving East is hustled on, rather disastrous results will ensue. It is better, since the public want that the Bill should be postponed for a fuller discussion, that the postponement should be allowed rather than that the Bill should be rushed through so as to give an impression that there is some reason why even this short postponement cannot be granted. I do not see what real harm there can be if this postponement for a short period be granted. On the other hand, if the postponement is granted it will satisfy the demands of a very large body of the public. If the Hon'ble Member can satisfy us that something like a fearful cataclysm will happen if the Bill is not forthwith passed, I will not only say that the Bill may be passed into law, but that it should be passed without a reference to the Select Committee."

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON said :—

"My Lord, dealing first with the amendment that the consideration of the Bengal Medical Bill be postponed for a period of three months and that in the meantime the Bill may be widely published for discussion and criticism, I have listened very carefully to the speeches of the Hon'ble Members, but I have failed to gather a single reason for the postponement. The proposal for postponement for three months seems a very moderate request, but the three months will just carry us through this session of the Council and we shall not be able to take it up before the rains or next cold weather. The Hon'ble mover of the amendment, as far as I can gather, has but one reason for bringing forward the amendment, and that is, that the Moslem League had not been consulted. He admitted that we had consulted a large number of representative associations and his only objection was to the omission of one particular association. I am sure that the Government and the Select Committee will be only too glad if that particular association will let us have their views, and there is ample time for this.

"This Government proposed legislation in the matter of medical registration in 1907, and this particular Bill was practically drawn up in its present shape two years ago. Since then, Bombay and Madras have brought in Bills on practically the same lines, and if you read the debates in those two Councils it will be found that in both cases the members of those Councils have cast what seems to me somewhat of a slur on Bengal. They said that they had been compelled to introduce their measures owing to what had been happening in Bengal. I think that it is essential that this Council should take up this session the matter of medical registration in Bengal. I do not gather that the postponement of the Bill for three months would leave us in a better position than we are at present. The Bill was published in the Gazette at the beginning of December. It was in the hands of all members of Council then, and yet we are told six weeks later that the medical practitioners of Calcutta have not yet taken the trouble to read the Bill. I think it would be a fair question to ask, if the members feel so deeply on the subject, why have they not during the last six weeks taken the trouble to explain to their friends and neighbours the exact particulars of this Bill and to remove the apprehensions and the fears which they say are so widespread.

[*Mr. Stephenson; Dr. Nilratan Sircar.*]

I trust, therefore, that the Council will not agree to this postponement of the Bill, but in order to meet any desire there may be for further time to send in opinions on the Bill, I am perfectly willing to amend my motion so as to give instructions to the Select Committee to circulate their report by the 28th of February. This will give us six weeks before the Select Committee have sent in their report, and the Bill would come on for final disposal by the end of March. I trust that this will meet the wishes of the Hon'ble Members.

"Turning to the main motion itself, it is not very difficult to see that the opinions we have received from the public bodies consulted, and I think I may also say the opinions expressed in this Council, are wholly in favour of the principles of the Bill. It has been said that the Bill does not go far enough to prevent quacks from practising. As I said in my motion in introducing the Bill, and it is also the general opinion, that it is impossible to prevent these people from practising. The sole object of the Bill is to register men who have undergone a certain standard of training which, in the opinion of Government, is sufficient to qualify them for practising in Western medicine.

"The Hon'ble Dr. Deba Prasad Sarbadhikari has raised the question of what is to happen to homœopaths. This question has been threshed out in the debates in Bombay and Madras, where it was explained that the homœopaths could not under present circumstances be brought within the four corners of this Bill for the reason that they have no definite standard which could be prescribed. With regard to allopathy we have certain definite qualifications and these qualifications are recognised by everybody as providing a standard of efficiency. As regards homœopathy there are no such qualifications. Therefore, until the homœopaths themselves have organized themselves and have got some definite standard of efficiency, it is impossible to legislate for them.

"The other points taken by the Hon'ble Member were, what is to happen to a homœopath who possessed an allopathic degree, and the composition of the Council. Both these questions, I think, are questions which the Select Committee will have to go into very carefully. I do not think it is for me to discuss these questions now, except to point out that in India Government has a very much closer connection with the medical profession than it has in any other part of the world. Government is responsible for most of the hospitals in India, it is responsible for the Government Medical Services, and it is also interested in the future of medical education, and the medical interests of Government here are really greater than in any other country.

"As has been explained in Bombay and Madras, the Bill is of the nature of an experiment, and in the first years at all events of the experiment it is essential that the movement should be under official guidance. The actual composition of the Council will no doubt be very closely examined by the Select Committee, and I do not wish to say anything whatever which would bind the hands of the Select Committee in its recommendation on that point.

"The Hon'ble Dr. Nilratan Sircar raised two points which I think are due to misapprehension. He spoke a great deal about the Bill being for the purpose of protecting the public against unqualified students. It is nothing of the sort. In introducing this Bill I said definitely that it would not prevent anyone practising or the public from employing anyone qualified or unqualified. There would be no question of protection in the matter. All we claim is that it will give the public a chance of knowing who are qualified and who are not, according to the definite standard which has been accepted as the right standard of medical efficiency."

The Hon'ble Dr. Nilratan Sircar said :—

"My Lord, in the Statement of Objects and Reasons the first object is said to be 'to provide a means of protecting the public and the medical profession from irregularly qualified practitioners whose training in medical science has been obtained in unrecognised institutions.'"

[*Mr. Stephenson.*]

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON said :—

"I think I explained that when I introduced the Bill. Its main object is to give the public a chance of knowing who are qualified practitioners.

"The other point that the Hon'ble Dr. Nilratan Sircar raised was the placing of the private practitioner under the ægis of the Medical Department. That is not a fair criticism. I have already explained that it is necessary to have an official majority on the Council, and as things are in India the Government Medical officers will of course belong to the Indian Medical Service. But I protest against the spirit displayed in the Hon'ble Member's speech as to rivalry and opposition between private practitioners and Indian Medical Service men. I think the Hon'ble Member's speech in itself gives a very good reason why we should bring in this Bill. I hope the constitution of this Council will do a great deal to bring the independent medical practitioners into closer connection with Government medical officers and will do away with this spirit of rivalry.

"There is only one other point which I wish to touch upon, and that is that there is a considerable amount of misapprehension with regard to the question of giving certificates. The giving of a health or life certificate does not come under the Act. The only certificates that come under the Act are certificates under the Lunacy Act, and I think under one of the Municipal Acts. There are only three cases altogether, and I can show the Council that the application of that provision will not work harshly in any way.

"I will not take up the time of the Council any more in discussing the principles or the details of the Bill.

"The main principles have been accepted not only by members of this Council, but also by all public bodies consulted, and it remains now to send the Bill to the Select Committee in order that the details may be carefully considered, and all the questions raised this morning, I have no doubt, will be very carefully weighed by the Committee.

"I therefore move that the Bengal Medical Bill, 1914, be referred to a Select Committee consisting of the Hon'ble Colonel Harris, the Hon'ble Mr. Newbould, the Hon'ble Rai Priya Nath Mukharji Bahadur, the Hon'ble Nawab Sir Khwaja Salimullah Bahadur, the Hon'ble Dr. Nilratan Sircar, the Hon'ble Raja Shoshi Kanta Acharyya Chaudhuri Bahadur, the Hon'ble Mr. Grice and myself with instructions to circulate our report by the 28th February 1914."

The amendment moved by the Hon'ble Maulvi Faz-ul-Haq was then put to the vote, and a division was taken with the following result :—

Ayes 21.

The Hon'ble Maharaja Ranajit Sinha of Nashipur.
The Hon'ble Mr. Sinha.
The Hon'ble Babu Upendra Lal Ray.
The Hon'ble Mr. Chakravarti.
The Hon'ble Raja Mahendra Ranjan Ray Chaudhuri.
The Hon'ble Maharaja Jagadindra Nath Ray.
The Hon'ble Mr. Apcar
The Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur.
The Hon'ble Dr. Deba Prasad Sarbadhikari, C.I.E.
The Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Banarji.
The Hon'ble Rai Nahinaksha Basu Bahadur.
The Hon'ble Babu Mahendra Nath Ray.
The Hon'ble Babu Prasanna Kumar Ray.
The Hon'ble Rai Hari Mohan Chandra Bahadur.
The Hon'ble Raja Hrishikesh Laha, C.I.E.
The Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Faz-ul-Haq.
The Hon'ble Nawab Sayyid Hossain Haider Chaudhuri, Khan Bahadur.
The Hon'ble Dr. Nilratan Sircar.
The Hon'ble Maulvi Mazharul Anwar Chaudhuri.
The Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Ray.
The Hon'ble Mr. G. H. C. Ariff.

Noes 28.

The Hon'ble Sir William Duke, K.C.I.E., C.S.I.
The Hon'ble Mr. Lyon, C.S.I.
The Hon'ble Nawab Syed Shams-ul-Huda.
The Hon'ble Mr. Cumming, C.I.E.
The Hon'ble Mr. Kerr, C.I.E.
The Hon'ble Mr. Stephenson, C.I.E.
The Hon'ble Mr. Samman.
The Hon'ble Mr. Newbould
The Hon'ble Mr. Finnimore.
The Hon'ble Mr. McLeod.
The Hon'ble Nawab Sir Khwaja Salimullah Bahadur, G.C.I.E., K.C.S.I.
The Hon'ble Mr. Shorrock.
The Hon'ble Nawab Saiyid Nawab Ali Chaudhuri, Khan Bahadur.
The Hon'ble Mr. Glen.
The Hon'ble Mr. Chaplin.
The Hon'ble Mr. Woods.
The Hon'ble Mr. Grice.
The Hon'ble Mr. Hilary.
The Hon'ble Mr. Stevenson-Moore, C.V.O.
The Hon'ble Mr. Hornell.
The Hon'ble Rai Priya Nath Mukharji Bahadur.
The Hon'ble Mr. Payne.
The Hon'ble Mr. Bompas.
The Hon'ble Colonel Harris, C.S.I., M.D., I.M.S.
The Hon'ble Mr. B. C. Mitra.
The Hon'ble Mr. Lang.
The Hon'ble Mr. Moberly
The Hon'ble Mr. Martin.

Amendments in the Bengal Legislative Rules, 1912.

[*Mr. Hornell; Sir William Duke.*]

The following members were absent :—

The Hon'ble Sir Bijay Chand Mahtab, K.C.S.I., K.C.I.E., I.O.M., Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan.
The Hon'ble Babu Ananda Chandra Ray.

The following members abstained from voting :—

The Hon'ble Maulvi Musharraf Hussain.
The Hon'ble Raja Shoshi Kanta Acharyya Chaudhuri Bahadur.

The result of the division being ayes 21, noes 28, the amendment was lost.

The Hon'ble Mr. Stephenson's motion, as follows, was then put to the vote and agreed to :—

"That the Bengal Medical Bill, 1914, be referred to a Select Committee consisting of the Hon'ble Mr. Stephenson, the Hon'ble Colonel Harris, the Hon'ble Mr. Newbould, the Hon'ble Rai Priya Nath Mukharji Bahadur, the Hon'ble Nawab Sir Khwaja Salimullah Bahadur, the Hon'ble Dr. Nilratan Sircar, the Hon'ble Raja Shoshi Kanta Acharyya Chaudhuri Bahadur, and the Hon'ble Mr. Grice, with instructions to circulate their report by the 28th February 1914."

THE DOVETON TRUST BILL, 1914.

List of Business—Item No. 5.—The Hon'ble Mr. Hornell presented the Report of the Select Committee on the Doveton Trust Bill, 1914, and moved that the said Report be taken into consideration.

The motion was put and agreed to.

List of Business—Item No. 6.—The Hon'ble Mr. Hornell moved that the Bill be passed.

The motion was put and agreed to.

AMENDMENTS IN THE BENGAL LEGISLATIVE RULES, 1912.

List of Business—Items Nos. 7—15.

The Hon'ble Sir William Duke said :—

"My Lord, I have now to move certain amendments in the Bengal Legislative Rules, 1912. Mr. Watson, the Secretary to the Council, has addressed a circular to members on the subject, and he has discussed with them points to which exception was taken by some of them. Only one amendment has been received, and I trust that the changes proposed will be found to have commended themselves to the general sense of the Council. The original motive of the changes is admittedly the convenience primarily of the Legislative Department, and in the next place of all the departments of Government which may have from time to time to promote new legislation; but these changes have also commended themselves to Government from the conviction that they will, in fact, tend to improve the quality of our legislation by permitting of amendments proposed by non-official members being more maturely considered. It will be observed that whenever Government has claimed more time for itself, it offers corresponding concessions to the private members. I may claim some experience of the business of legislation in this Council. I have sat in it since 1908, and it so happens that during the whole time I have worked in close association with the Legislative Department. During that time we have dealt with some measures which were at once voluminous and contentious. I may instance the Excise Bill, the Calcutta Police Bill, the Calcutta Improvement Bill and the Orissa Tenancy Bill. All of these measures produced floods of amendments, in some cases many hundreds. I have seen how both the Administrative Departments and the Legislative Department were driven in order to deal with these, and it is not too much to say that when such numbers of amendments are received only a

few days before they are to be considered in Council, neither can the proposals of members receive the consideration to which they are entitled, nor can Government have the assurance that if it tries to meet the views of members by accepting their proposals in whole or part it will not make some serious mistake and leave deplorable gaps in its legislation. In the past, we had to rely for protection on the extraordinary care and industry of Mr. Wigley and the event has generally justified this confidence; but I do not think that it is fair to demand from anyone such extraordinary exertions as he and his staff have several times had to make in the past in the days preceding the consideration of an important Bill in Council.

These alterations in the rules will, of course, considerably extend the normal time in which a measure can be passed through the legislative stages. I doubt, however, whether upon the whole they will really increase the average time between the introduction and the passing of large measures of importance. In my experience appeals have very frequently been made to Government to allow time for more mature consideration. Sometimes these have been acceded to with the result of postponing legislation from one session to another; in others Government has found it impossible to give way and has incurred the reproach of rushing legislation. It seems to me that much of this might be avoided if our procedure allowed time for the consideration of the views of private members as embodied in their amendments. In times of severe pressure, the line of least resistance on the part of the Administrative Department is to refuse to consider any new proposal. Before any amendment of importance can be accepted, it must be dealt with by one or more Secretaries in the Administrative Departments and considered by the four members of the Government and then examined and put into shape by the Legislative Department. That all takes time. Under the present system when extremely little time is allowed, no one has time enough to give second thoughts to an amendment, and unless it secures his assent at the first blush he must make up his mind straight off to accept or reject it, and if in doubt he is pretty certain to adopt the latter course. In such a state of hurry, there is little opportunity for negotiation. It may well happen that, although Government cannot concede all that is asked, it might, if there were time to discuss the proposal, be prepared to meet an amendment half way, but time and opportunity may be wanting and the amendment gets rejected summarily. I think then that it will be recognised that private members stand to gain at least as much as the Government by the extension of the time during which their amendments are under consideration.

As regards the individual changes, I will make a few explanatory remarks.

Perhaps it would be more convenient if I make these all at once instead of endeavouring simply to put these amendments in succession.

As regards rule 21, we should take some time for consideration of new Bills. I think no member who wishes to introduce a Bill will grudge Government time in which to consider it.

As regards rule 22, we wish to make "fifteen days" the ordinary time which we should have for the consideration of amendments, and in the case of Bills which produce multitudinous amendments that the President should be able to extend the time to thirty days. In the latter case, however, we propose to give members as long to prepare their amendments as we will have to consider them. We had said "if possible" because we thought that it might not always be possible to give the full period of 60 days, and we did not wish to be tied to an exact period which might be inconvenient to all concerned, but as there is evidently some feeling against the want of precision which these words import, we have decided to do without them and to drop amendment No. 8 in which they are contained.

Under rule 41 (*2*), as it used to be, a member could object to a report being taken into consideration unless he had been furnished with it a week before, but as under rule 22 (*1*) he was required to give notice of amendments at least five days before, he might only have the difference between a week and five days, *i.e.*, two days in which to prepare his amendments. The amendment as originally proposed would have given

at least *five* days for this purpose, a clear gain of *three* days. Some members desire *ten* days and an amendment to that effect is on the agenda, but I must say that after very careful consideration Government has come to the conclusion that there must be some limit to liberality in this respect. We propose to go as far as *seven*, and "seven" will be substituted for "five" in the amendment. This means that a Bill cannot be taken in Council until at least 7 + 15, *i.e.*, 22 days after the report of the Select Committee has been circulated, and we do not think that we should be justified in making a greater delay inevitable in ordinary cases.

In rule 51, we have extended the time for circulation of the list of business from two days to four, but in view of possible pressure owing to the number of items we had put in the qualifying words "whenever possible" and subsequently altered them to "if time permits." Some exception has been taken to these words, and I understand that "ordinarily" will be regarded as more satisfactory. I shall accordingly move the amendment in that form; but, as the next amendment will show, the time in the most extreme case will now be two days instead of one."

With Your Lordship's permission, I will now move the amendments.

List of Business—Item No. 7. The Hon'ble Sir William Duke moved that, in rule 21 of the Bengal Legislative Rules, 1912, for the word "five" the word "ten" be substituted.

The motion was put and agreed to.

List of Business—Item No. 8. The Hon'ble Sir William Duke moved that, in rule 22 (*1*) of the same rules, for the word "five" the word "fifteen" be substituted.

The motion was put and agreed to.

List of Business—Item No. 9. The Hon'ble Sir William Duke moved that, in rule 22 (*2*) of the same rules, for the word "six" the word "sixteen" be substituted, and for the word "five" the word "fifteen" be substituted.

The motion was put and agreed to.

List of Business—Item No. 10. The Hon'ble Sir William Duke moved that, in rule 22 (*3*) of the same rules, for the word "fifteen" the word "thirty" be substituted.

The motion was put and agreed to.

List of Business—Item No. 11. The Hon'ble Sir William Duke, with the permission of the President, withdrew the following motion:—"that in line 1 of rule 22 (*5*) of the same rules, after the word "shall," the brackets and words "(if possible)" be inserted.

List of Business—Item No. 12. With His Excellency's permission, the Hon'ble Sir William Duke moved the following motion in the place of Motion No. 12* which stood in his name:—

> "that in rule 41 (*2*) of the same rules, for the words "when he has not been furnished for a week with a copy of the Report," the following be substituted, viz., "unless such Report was forwarded to him at least seven days before the final date fixed for the receipt of notice of amendments."

List of Business—Item No. 12A. The Hon'ble Mr. Byomkes Chakravarti moved, by way of amendment to the above, that in rule 41 (*2*) of the same rules, for the words "when he has not been furnished for a week with a copy of the Report" the following be substituted, namely:—

> "unless such Report was forwarded to him at least ten days before the final date fixed for the receipt of notice of amendments."

*List of Business—Item No. 12. The Hon'ble Sir William Duke to move that in rule 41 (*2*) of the same rules, for the words "when he has not been furnished for a week with a copy of the Report," the following be substituted, namely:—

> "unless such Report was forwarded to him at least five days before the final date fixed for the receipt of notice of amendments."

[*Mr. Byomkes Chakravarti.*]

He said :—

"I frankly confess that I personally feel grateful to the Hon'ble Mover for the courtesy with which he has met the Hon'ble Members in this part of the House, who wanted certain concessions. He has already made two concessions, *i.e.*, with regard to the omissions of the words "if possible," and also with regard to the substitution of the word "ordinarily" for "if time permits," and that satisfies us so far as these two matters are concerned. In the same way, we feel grateful that he has himself extended the five days to seven days, and if it were possible for me to accept, without seeming to appear ungracious with regard to the concessions that have been made, I would have done so. But the difficulty which has been pressed upon me (and it is not only my personal view, but it is the view which has been to a considerable extent insisted upon by the Hon'ble Members of this part of the House, or rather by some of the Hon'ble Members) is that the matter stands in this way. There is no doubt that the Hon'ble mover is perfectly right that we are getting more by the amendment which he now proposes. Formerly the time for sending in amendments was five days before the meeting, and we were only given a week, which really meant two days, for the framing of the amendment. I am not oblivious, nor are my friends in this part of the House oblivious, of the substantiality of the concessions which the Hon'ble mover proposes to make, but at the same time what has been pressed upon me is this. My friends say that where the Government had five days to consider the amendment, it will now have 15 days—three times five. We do not grudge that. We say "by all means." Legislation is a very important matter, and with regard to it we cannot have too much time. In the same way, where the time was only six days, Government is now seeking (we do not grudge it to Government) to have it recognized that it ought to be 16 days. Now, in the same way, where it had been 15 days, 30 days. By all means have plenty of time for consideration with regard to these matters of legislation which do require consideration—you do not see things at the first blush. But what we find is this, that, notwithstanding the concession which the Hon'ble Member is prepared to make in our favour, the position stands in this way. The Hon'ble Members in this part of the House are not all residents of Calcutta. Some of them come from Dacca, some from Chittagong, and, in the ordinary circumstances, a letter sent to the address of a member who resides in Chittagong will not soon reach him, because after all he does not reside here. It may be sent to his address in Calcutta, then the letter has to be forwarded and, assuming that there is no delay (and that we can manage that there shall be no delay), that the letter is forwarded to him at once. I am told that it takes about three days before the letter reaches him. Then, if he has to write back, with his amendment, another three days will be required, for purposes of transmission of the amendment, which gives him really only one day. My Hon'ble friend, Maulvi Fazl-ul-Haq, said, in connection with another matter, that in the East we like to do things leisurely, we do not want to be hustled, but if the Government, with English training, and that English instinct and English promptitude, requires 15 days in the place of five days to consider the amendment, I think we Easterners may be justified in asking that we ought to have more than one day. I refer to the members not resident in Calcutta to consider our amendments, and in point of fact I venture to think that if this concession is made by the Hon'ble Member it will really tend to the saving of time in the long run, because, if an Hon'ble Member has an opportunity of considering the amendment which he desires to put forward, it is bound to be done with a considerable degree of care and caution, rather than the sending in of an ill-adjusted amendment which will cause the Hon'ble Members who have charge of these Bills more trouble than would a matured amendment sent in. In these circumstances, it only means three days more—that, by giving three days more, practically the member who comes from Chittagong will get about four days to consider his amendment. Otherwise, with regard to the gentlemen who come from Chittagong or Dacca, they will be placed in a considerable amount of difficulty in regard to the amendments which have to be sent in. I beg the Hon'ble Member not to understand that I am putting forward this amendment in a

spirit of antagonism or in a spirit of carping criticism with regard to the concession which he has already made so handsomely, but with a view to obviating a grievance which appears to me to be a reasonable one. The point is this. Either this Council should be deprived of the assistance of the Hon'ble Members who reside at a distance with regard to what light they can throw upon legislative measures put forward in this Council, or the result would be that they would send in some sort of amendment which would give my friends on the other side of the House trouble, rather than any assistance at all. I think therefore that, with regard to the further extension of two days more—it is now, according to the calculation which has been made by the Hon'ble Mover, about 22 days—this will be increased by another three days. With regard to any amendment or measure which requires immediate attention from the Council, I have no doubt whatever that Your Excellency will exercise the power which is vested in you, *i.e.*, suspend the rules. The business must go on. If there is urgent business, nobody, I venture to think, on this side of the House, will object to an urgent matter being treated as an urgent matter, but with regard to ordinary matters I do hope that the Hon'ble Mover will see his way to accept the suggestion which I have made in my amendment, and that will only extend the time to three days more. We are very grateful for his now having given us seven days. With regard to resident members in Calcutta, that will probably be sufficient; they ought to be able to get out their amendments in this time, but many members in this part of the House are not residents of Calcutta. They are really the minority, and it will work a certain amount of hardship; and, after all, let there be give and take. My friends are taking 15 days where they had only five, and we are only asking that from seven days the number of days should be 10. I hope, therefore, my Lord, the Hon'ble Mover will see his way to accept this amendment."

The Hon'ble SIR WILLIAM DUKE said :—

"I am afraid, my Lord, I may rather appear to put myself in the position of one of straining at a gnat after swallowing a camel. If we allow 30 days in one place it seems rather ungracious to stick at a miserable three in another but, as a matter of fact, I do not think we ought to go to extremes. The hon'ble gentleman's arguments make one wonder how members got on at all before, with only two days' time in which to frame their amendments, and I think it is curious that a proposal for extension came from me and not from them. I do not remember there having been any agitation on the subject of increasing the time until I spontaneously proposed to do it. I think that I must ask the Council to say that the Hon'ble Mr. Chakravarti is asking for just a little too much. It is true that we have extended our time from 5 to 15 days, but then we have extended it for Hon'ble Members 3½ times, that is from 2 days to 7. I do not feel it desirable to give the extra three days. I think that that would make the normal procedure somewhat too long and would create occasions which I should deprecate, for frequent suspensions of the rules. I am afraid I must oppose the extension."

The Hon'ble MR. CHAKRAVARTI :—

I think it is hardly worth while taking your Lordship's time for a division, and so I withdraw the amendment.

The amendment was then, by leave of the President, withdrawn.

The Hon'ble Sir William Duke's motion (No. 11) was then put to the vote and agreed to.

List of Business—Item No. 12. With His Excellency's permission, the Hon'ble Sir William Duke moved the following motion in the place of Motion No. 13.*

* **List of Business—Motion No. 13.** The Hon'ble Sir William Duke to move that, for the first three lines of rule 51 of the same rules, the following be substituted, namely :—

"A list of the business to be brought forward at a meeting of Council shall if time permits, be despatched by the Secretary to each member at least four days before such meeting."

That, for the first three lines of rule 51 of the same rules, the following be substituted, namely :—

"A list of the business to be brought forward at a meeting of Council shall ordinarily be despatched by the Secretary to each member at least four days before such meeting."

The motion was put and agreed to.

List of Business—Item No. 14. The Hon'ble Sir William Duke moved that, in the proviso to rule 51 of the same rules, for the words "sent to each member at least one day before the meeting," the following be substituted, namely :—

"sent so as to reach each member at least two days before the meeting."

The motion was put and agreed to.

List of Business—Item No. 15. The Hon'ble Sir William Duke moved that, for rule 54 (*1*) of the same rules, the following be substituted, namely :—

"(*1*) to draft all Bills originated by the Government of Bengal and the Reports of Select Committees to which such Bills are referred; to settle the Statement of Objects and Reasons appended to such Bills, and to prepare the Notes on Clauses (if any)."

The motion was put and agreed to.

THE CALCUTTA MUNICIPAL (LOANS) BILL, 1914.

List of Business—Item No. 16. The Hon'ble Mr. Stephenson moved that the Report of the Select Committee on the Calcutta Municipal (Loans) Bill, 1914, be taken into consideration.

He said :—

"I have to move that the report of the Select Committee on the Calcutta Municipal Loans Bill be taken into consideration by the Council. In doing so, as it is nearly a year since the Bill was last before the Council, I may perhaps be permitted to review shortly the progress of the Bill and the attitude of Government in connection with it. In introducing the Bill I explained that its object was to remedy the defects in the Corporation Sinking Fund and to provide a system for the future which would prevent these defects from recurring. It may be taken generally that our proposal for making good the existing deficit, as well as the subsidiary proposals included in the Bill which do not bear upon the constitution of the Sinking Fund, have been accepted and the opposition is concentrated on the proposals which Government has made for the constitution of the Sinking Funds in the future. As an impression appears to have got abroad that Government is trying to impose a retrograde measure upon an unwilling Corporation without listening to their protests, it may assist the Council if I note briefly the representations which have from time to time been made by the Corporation and the action that Government has taken upon them. In their letter of the 10th March before the Bill was sent to a Select Committee the Corporation urged—

(1) that the Bill should provide for a system of repayment of each loan on a term equated to the average life of the works according to the system set forth in Collins' Book and that a Committee of experts be appointed to work out this equation ;

(2) that power be given to the Corporation to reserve part of new loans for their own investment ;

(3) that they should be allowed to cancel their debentures in the Sinking Fund ;

[*Mr. Stephenson.*]

(4) that while there should be separate accounts for the Sinking Fund of each loan, the money for purposes of investment should be treated as a common fund ;

(5) that there should be a provision for giving the Corporation the option of repayment of debentures at an earlier date in the case of long-term loans ;

(6) that the Corporation should have power to raise emergent loans without applying to any body for sanction ; and

(7) that the Trustees should be abolished.

"The demand for the power to raise emergent loans has since been abandoned. The Select Committee provided for the reservation of part of new loans for the Corporation's investment, for the treatment for purposes of investment of the Sinking Fund money as a common fund, for giving the Corporation the option of repayment of debentures at an earlier date in the case of long-term loans and for the abolition of Trustees. The only points therefore on which the Select Committee were unable to meet the wishes of the Corporation were with regard to the cancellation of debentures and to the equation of a loan to the average life of the works. It appears from the report of the Corporation meeting last week that the Corporation have now abandoned their proposal for the cancellation of debentures in the Sinking Fund, and a perusal of the debates of the Corporation in July will show that they have now abandoned Collins' work as out of date and are apparently prepared to admit that the proposal they put forward last March for equating a loan to the average life of the works for which it was raised is impracticable. These facts appear to be a complete justification for the attitude of the Select Committee and, after their report had been submitted, Government felt confident that a further opportunity for reflection would convince the Corporation of the soundness of the Bill, and the consideration of this report of the Select Committee was postponed. In August the Corporation approached Government again with a further representation, and the five points on which they laid particular stress were the following :—

(1) They asked Government to insert in the Bill a maximum period of indebtedness of 60 years as in the case of the Bombay City and Madras Municipal Acts ;

(2) that a provision adjusting the period of indebtedness suitably to the life of the works should be inserted ;

(3) that clause 139 dealing with the loan taken in 1912 should be omitted ;

(4) that a system of purchase and extinction of debentures as a method of repayment of loans should be provided for ; and

(5) that the Common Sinking Fund should be utilized for the purpose of repayment of loans as well as for investment.

It was admitted that the provisions of the Bill did not restrict the possible period of loans, but were absolutely elastic ; but the Corporation were apparently under some apprehension that in practice they might not receive the same treatment at the hands of the Government of India as is accorded to Bombay and Madras. They therefore wished that their Act should be assimilated to those of Bombay and Madras. As the ultimate sanctioning authority is the Government of India and this Government was desirous to remove as far as possible the apprehensions, and perhaps I may say misapprehensions, of the Corporation with regard to the Bill, the Government of India were addressed on the subject. The Government of India have met these representations in a very full degree. The recent speech of His Excellency the Viceroy in Calcutta must have removed any apprehension the Corporation felt that they would not receive the same treatment as is accorded to other Presidency Corporations, and in a letter which has been communicated to the Corporation the Government of India have definitely stated that their intention is to treat the Corporation of Calcutta in respect of the currency of their loans in precisely the same way as the other Presidency Corporations and they give the assurance that in determining the currency of a loan

due regard will be had to the duration of a work. The Government of India have gone further to meet the views of the Corporation and have agreed to waive the conditions under which the loan of 1912 was taken. This is a concession outside the Bill inasmuch as the conditions regarding this loan were imposed before the Bill was introduced and the provisions of the Bill were only intended to give effect to the conditions which had been imposed. The Government of India have now agreed to release the Corporation from these conditions, and clause 139 of the Bill will be omitted. The first three points, therefore, on which the Corporation laid particular stress have been fully met, and one of the remaining two the Corporation has since decided not to press. I think the Council will agree that this history of the Bill shows at least that Government has all through been anxious to meet the wishes of the Corporation where this can be done without sacrificing a principle which Government considers vital. That principle is that the simplest form of a Sinking Fund with no complications is the most suitable method of repayment of debt for local bodies in the present circumstances of India. The difference between Government and the Corporation now is that the Corporation wish to introduce certain practices which are prevalent in England and to graft them on to the Sinking Fund system that we have set up in the Bill. I do not propose to deal with these practices now as they will be debated when the amendments are taken into consideration. I only wish to make quite clear what the attitude of Government is. In England, provided that the proper contributions are paid to the Sinking Funds or Loans Funds or whatever the form of the repayment fund may be, the local authorities are allowed the very freest hand in dealing with the monies in that fund, and we must admit that such a free hand may in some circumstances be of financial advantage to the authority concerned. But in England there is financial expert advice available for the local authority to an extent which will not be the case in India for very many years, and notwithstanding the possession of this expert advice there is an extremely strong Government Department with enormously wide powers whose sole duty it is to look after the operations of these local authorities. In many other ways the conditions of the local authorities at home are essentially different from those of the Calcutta Corporation, but the principal point is that the local authorities in England have infinitely greater opportunities for obtaining financial advice and are nevertheless supervised to an extent undreamt of in India by a very powerful special Department of Government. These proposals were very carefully considered in 1910 and the arguments for and against fully weighed, and this Government then deliberately decided that it would incur a very grave responsibility if it placed in the hands of even the most advanced Corporation in India these wide powers of dealing with their Sinking Funds, and that the soundest system for Corporations in India was the simplest form of Sinking Fund which would ensure without complications that when the debt is to be paid off the money shall be there to meet it. The whole case was placed before the Government of India, who entirely agreed with the views of this Government. No fresh circumstances or arguments have been produced since that date to shake the confidence of Government in the opinion then come to, and I think the Council need only reflect that under the system in force in England the present deficiency in the Sinking Fund, whether it was due to a flaw in the Act or a flaw in practice, could not possibly have accrued to realize that until we have in India the safeguards of expert financial advice and a strong Government Department it is essential that Government, on whom the responsibility finally rests, should be very slow to depart from those simple forms of procedure which give the best assurance of safety. The advantages of these simple forms of procedure in the case of Municipalities in their present stage of development in India far outweigh any possible advantages from any financial operation which the Corporation could indulge in if they were given a free hand with their Sinking Fund money, and the risk in the present circumstances in giving them such a free hand is one which Government cannot afford to incur. I do not desire to raise now any controversy on these points which will be

dealt with in the discussions on the amendments as they come before the Council, but I only wish to make it clear to the Council that the matters at issue are now reduced to two or three main questions, all the other proposals put forward having been either accepted by Government or withdrawn by the Corporation, and that the points on which the Corporation is now in opposition to Government are points where this vital principle is involved and the unwillingness of Government to accept their views on these matters arises not from any arbitrary exercise of power, but from a deliberate consideration of what is in the best interests of the Corporation itself. I would ask the Council now to take the Bill into consideration and to proceed with the discussion of the individual amendments."

The motion was put and agreed to.

DEBATE ON THE AMENDMENTS TO THE BILL.

Clause 1.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 1.—The Hon'ble Mr. Apcar moved that the words "Act Amendment" be substituted for the brackets and word "(loans)" in clause 1.

He said :—"This Bill when passed is to be substituted, as will be seen from clause 2, for Chapter X of the Calcutta Municipal Act and will form part and parcel of that Act. But from its title it will be taken to be an independent Act and in no way connected with any other Act. If my amendment is accepted, the Bill when passed would bear the title 'The Calcutta Municipal Act (Amendment) Act.' I feel sure that my hon'ble and learned friends will corroborate me in the most unqualified manner that if the Act is called what it really is, an Amendment Act, it will facilitate research and will save time, whereas the title it is proposed to give is calculated to mislead. I can hardly think that it has been sufficiently appreciated how great the advantage is by giving a proper title to an Act as near as it can be given. I can personally speak to the help that that method has been to myself in the present discussion.

My Lord, with relation to the Calcutta Corporation, we have the Calcutta Municipal Consolidation Act, 1876. That Act was amended in 1881, and we find the amended Act called 'The Calcutta Municipal Consolidation Act Amendment Act, 1881,' and the very title itself has been of help to those who have desired to trace out the law in the present discussion. This advantage will be lost if we adopt a fancy name. The method of nomenclature of course is derived from the practice in England. I will take the English Public Health Act as an instance. I have had frequent occasion to refer to that Statute in the present discussion when I have desired to make sure whether any provision in that Statute has been amended. By simply looking down the table of Statutes we are able, without further trouble, to detect which are the amending Acts to the original Act. The original Act is called the Public Health Act, 1875. The amending Act that follows is named the Public Health Act Amendment Act with the year stated in which the amendment was made: and so we come in its turn to the Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890, the Public Health Act being expressed in the plural number because other amending Acts intervened.

I plead for nothing more than that, instead of a fancy name, however pleasing to the ear, a name that will be of practical use be given to the new law."

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON said :—

"I cannot claim to have made the researches indicated in the hon'ble member's speech, and that is perhaps why I do not quite appreciate the hon'ble member's reason for his proposed nomenclature. The hon'ble member

[*Mr. Apcar.*]

brought the amendment forward in the Select Committee, and we then decided that we would consult an authority, namely, Mr. Wigley, our then Secretary, and would abide by what he said. Mr. Wigley was very strongly against any change in the nomenclature and declared that it would be contrary to all recent statutory precedent. He was of opinion that the present form of nomenclature is the correct form from the drafting point of view. Therefore, as we decided in the Select Committee that we would abide by Mr. Wigley's opinion, I do not think we should change the name which is, as I have said, in accordance with all recent statutory precedent both in England and in India."

The Hon'ble MR. APCAR said :—

"I cannot accept the hon'ble member's assurance that my motion is not in accordance with practice, as one sees in English Statutes that amending Acts are always called amending Acts, and therefore I thought it was necessary to bring the matter forward before the Council."

The motion was then put and lost.

Clause 128.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 2.—The Hon'ble Mr. Apcar moved that the words "of a permanent nature, that is to say, works the cost of which ought, in the opinion of the Government, to be distributed over a term of years" be substituted for the words "under this Act" in clause 128 (*1*) (*a*).

He said :—"Under the present Calcutta Municipal Act the Corporation are empowered to borrow only 'for the construction of works of a permanent nature.' The amendment under discussion will permit the Corporation to borrow for any kind of work without restriction, even for maintenance of buildings, repairs of roads or other works, which are always regarded in Municipal administrations as being of a transitory character. The change in the law would permit the moneys raised as capital to be employed on works that cannot be regarded as capital works, and I view with grave apprehension the removal of all limitations, such as is proposed to effect by the terms of the Bill. My Lord, I am so unhappy as to be in issue with the Corporation, who desired to be allowed free scope to borrow for any purpose without any statutory restriction, under any loan sanctioned by the Government. My Lord, I greatly value the consideration the Commissioners have extended to me in electing me on so many occasions to represent them in Council. But here let me say, once and for all, that I cannot regard myself as merely a delegate in Your Excellency's Council. The Corporation have every right to demand from their representative his time and his labour. And I have ungrudgingly given them that service in every question that may affect the interest of the Corporation. But I claim to exercise my own judgment in questions in which I hold strong convictions. In the present question I have urged my views with insistence on frequent occasions. They were well known for many years before my present election, and they cannot come as a surprise to the Corporation. I conceive my position in your Excellency's Council to be, to assist within the limits of my very humble power in framing laws which in my opinion will be on proper principles and for the benefit of the people whom they will affect, and with that intention I propose to persevere with my motion and very seriously to urge its adoption.

It is recognized in Great Britain as it is in the sister Presidency towns of Bombay and Madras that it would be inadvisable to give such unrestricted powers as have been proposed in the Bill. The Madras Corporation have followed the Calcutta practice which the Bill now proposes to displace and under their Act, passed in the year 1904, they can borrow only for the construction of works of a permanent nature, in the exact terms of the present Calcutta Act and which the proposal in the Bill will change. The Bombay Corporation have adopted the provisions of the English Public Health Act of 1875 and have incorporated them in their Act passed in the year 1888. That law

has been maintained with approval, and is in force in Great Britain and in Bombay to the present day. It upholds the principle that money can be borrowed only for permanent works, but since those words, if strictly construed, might operate unduly to restrict borrowing, the meaning to be attached to the phrase 'permanent works' is expressly explained to be 'works the cost of which ought in the opinion of the Local Government Board to be distributed over a term of years.' In Bombay of course the Government of India is the controlling authority, as they are proposed to be made in my amendment. This qualification gives all the elasticity that is required for all practical purposes. But the principle is incorporated in the Act as a guide to Municipal administrations and as a standard to be maintained by the controlling authority.

The change proposed in the Bill for Calcutta is very noticeable. The first Act under which general borrowing powers were given to the Corporation was in the Act of 1863, and under that Act loans could be raised only 'for the construction of permanent works.' Under all the general amending Acts that have followed, passed in the years 1876, 1888 and 1899, respectively, the same limitation, in exactly the same words, has been imposed. I think that the words are too rigid if they are strictly interpreted. I was in Council when the last Act was passed, but I did not venture to propose a change. The words given in the law were interpreted to include the construction of such works as drainage, water-supply and buildings. Our finances were being carefully administered and our expenditure carefully adapted to our income, under these conditions and as there had been no difficulty experienced, I could not have pointed to any specific reason for an amendment, caused by the words used in the Act, and that would have been the answer of the Government to any attempt I might have made to obtain an amendment.

It is very intelligible for the Corporation, when the Government go so far as to offer to them the prospect, to be glad to place on loan funds as much as possible, so that they may have as much money available for immediate expenditure as possible. I fear that there will not be that care exercised in the administration of our funds which public interests demand, if the cost of only 5 per cent. as loan charge money can be obtained for expenditure which should be paid wholly out of revenue, and in other Municipal Corporations are paid out of that fund. Just as it is thought inadvisable in Great Britain and in Bombay and Madras, I think, from my experience of nearly 30 years, that it will be inadvisable for such powers to be given to the Calcutta Corporation.

The deliberate removal not only of the limitation to the extent that existed before, but of every limitation such as exists in Great Britain, Bombay and Madras must be interpreted as having some meaning: and in future I think that it is inevitable that the change will be so regarded, even by the Government. In the circumstances it may be said, quite rightly I think, that the intention is to give to the Calcutta Corporation wider powers of borrowing than are given to other Municipal Corporations and for purposes that will not be permissible in other Municipal Administrations.

Whatever the material facts with which I am furnished, I have no intention of entering into details at the present stage of our proceedings. But I can state as historical facts that our finances have not continued always to be carefully administered, that this has led to difficulties in balancing our expenditure with our receipts, and, that, in order to avoid showing deficits, the framers of our Budgets have succumbed to the temptation and adopted methods, not considered legitimate in the accounts of public bodies. And let me say here, with sorrow, that the Government cannot be the first to throw a stone at the Municipality. It may, however, perhaps be necessary to state at once that to lighten the expenditure side of the revenue, they have transferred items previously charged to revenue to loan funds and when the law rigidly limits the Corporation borrowings 'for the construction of permanent works' conservancy ponies have been placed in the category of 'permanent works,' and I suppose their purchase has been interpreted as being the construction of the permanent works. I have known under one *regime* ready acquiescence to

the inclusion in the loan fund an item of the value of Rs. 1,000 and under the *regime* that has followed, the Corporation have received intimation that only items of the value of over Rs. 15,000 could be placed on the loan fund. I may have thought such a direction rather indiscriminating, but I have had to plead guilty before the Corporation of my approval of the policy underlying it. When I have seen the indulgence of the Government and their policy vary with such a wide range and the encroachments of the framers of our Budgets, I trust that hon'ble members will understand my anxiety, and the Government I hope will now sympathize with my desire, to maintain the central idea of permanent works for which loans can be raised. I, on my part, spontaneously say that the present law is too rigid. If strictly interpreted, I cannot think of any other object than land coming under the description of permanent. An amendment to meet this objection is very far from the proposal in the Bill. After the series of Acts that have been passed in this connection surely the strongest reasons are required to justfy a change that sweeps away all limitations. My amendment, taken from the English Public Health Act of 1875 and adopted in the Bombay Municipal Act, gives all the elasticity needed : that is to say, express power to borrow for objects the cost of which ought, in the opinion of the Government, to be distributed over a term of years. Under the proposal in the Bill, capital money can be used, as I have said before, for purposes which cannot be said to be capital works. The Calcutta Corporation ordinarily are required to pay out of revenue for maintenance of works and depreciation, and they would be authorized also to borrow for such purposes. I submit that this is not sound finance. Will not the hon'ble member in charge, whatever his own ideas and views, examine to see what is the meaning of the desire that all such limitation as exist under the English Public Health Act of 1875 should be removed? What can it be but that the Corporation want to place on loan funds the charge for works the cost of which cannot be distributed over a term of years? To say that the admission of any item on the loan funds would be under the control generally given to the Government in sanctioning loans would be a sufficient safeguard, when we cannot forget the fact the *personnel* of our controlling authorities, from the exigencies of their service, cannot be expected to be continuous, when, however firmly certain views may be held by them in the present day, they cannot predicate the views of a successor who may be new to the office, I beg to be pardoned if I say, from my personal knowledge and experience in the past, that this argument is not convincing. I hold to the words 'permanent works' as a sheet anchor. If we do not incorporate them the range of borrowings will become wider and wider. With the limitation to permanent works removed there will be no restraining influence to bring the borrowings back to a proper standard.

And then it has been formally notified to us, in the last communication the Corporation have received from the Government, that the period to be prescribed for the repayment of loans will be judged according to the durability of works, but if there need be no durability, as the deliberate omission of the word 'permanent' will indicate, unless the works are to be in some degree permanent, how can the period be judged according to the durability of works? Again, is not the omission of any mention of the word 'permanent' inconsistent with the declaration which has also been formally made to us, questioning whether improvement of streets and roadways are legitimate items of capital expenditure. Some members of the Corporation, of whom I humbly admit I am one, think that items of petty improvements should be paid for out of revenue. Is the hon'ble member in charge opposed to that policy which was pressed upon the Corporation by his former chief, the late Sir Edward Baker, when Lieutenant-Governor of this Province? I think that many items of expenditure which fairly might be paid for out of loans under a strict interpretation of our present law cannot legitimately be placed on loan funds, and to that extent I am entirely in favour of an amendment of the law, but the proposals in the Bill go from the Scylla of uncompromising rigidity to the Charybdis of absolute negation of durability and permanence. I ask that equilibrium be restored. Mr. Maddox supported the provision in

the Bill in Special Committee, and the hon'ble member in charge may excusably have been influenced, as I understood at the time was the case, by Mr. Maddox's attitude. But afterwards Mr. Maddox spontaneously wrote to me to say that if I moved in the Corporation in terms of my proposal in Select Committee he would second me, and one of his last acts before his illness compelled him to resign his office of Chairman of the Corporation, was to come to the Corporation meeting—one of the last, if not the last, which he attended—to give effect to his offer to second my proposal in the terms of my amendment which I beg to move for acceptance by the hon'ble member in charge of the Council.

The phrase 'permanent works' under my proposal is expressly defined to mean works the cost of which, in the opinion of the Government of India, can be spread over a term of years. This meets any reasonable objection that could be taken to the present law. Steam road-rollers, street lamps under any new system of lighting, could come under my amendment, and in fact these items are permitted by the Local Government Board in England. All I say now is that we should have incorporated in the Bill the phrase 'permanent works' to be a guide and to exercise some restraining influence; otherwise those who desire to keep the administration of Municipal Funds within more strict limits would have no ground to oppose any effort being made to place any item of expenditure whatever on loan funds."

The Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur said :—

"My Lord, this is a motion which was moved by my hon'ble friend Mr. Apear, in the Select Committee, but after some discussion it was not accepted by the Select Committee. This is a motion which was urged in the Corporation, but it was not accepted by the Corporation. This is a motion which was fully considered by the financial expert of the Corporation, the Vice-Chairman, on whose opinion and judgment, I believe, my hon'ble friend has great faith, and he deliberately advised the Corporation that if the words 'of a permanent nature' were inserted, it would be against the best interests of the Corporation. In the definition suggested by my learned friend, the word 'permanent' is most objectionable, and if it were incorporated in the Act, it would be ambiguous and misleading. The late Chairman, Mr. Maddox, pointed out in the Select Committee that it was represented to the Corporation that if the phrase 'works of a permanent nature' were dropped, Government would be able to sanction loans for works of a more varied class. Then, My Lord, in the Statement of Objects and Reasons it is stated that provided the term of the loan and the amount of the sinking fund is suitably adjusted to the life of the works, it may be desirable in exceptional cases to finance from loans, works which cannot be described as of a permanent nature. The loans that would be raised from year to year would be subject to the approval of the Local Government. It will be quite within the option of the Local Government to grant a loan for any particular item or to refuse, and here, My Lord, the power has been expressly taken in order, that the Government might, if any exceptional occasion arises, be in a position to help the Corporation. It has been stated that ponies have been bought out of borrowed money. My Lord, perhaps it is not well explained by my learned friend that the first equipment of the Gowkhana was met from it, but the renewals, year after year, were paid from revenue. The loan statement of the Corporation during the last five years has been subjected to a very careful scrutiny by Government, and if any order is passed for the omission or modification of any item the statement has to be modified accordingly before sanction is granted. In some cases it was directed by the previous Government that any expenditure on permanent works below Rs. 15,000 should not be met from borrowed funds. So, My Lord, everything is in the hands of the Government, and it is at the discretion of Government to sanction or not to sanction any item in the loan statement. What benefit do we, the Corporation, derive by imposing a restriction on the discretion of the Government, for when any exceptional occasion

arises, it would fetter the hands of the Government than otherwise. I think, having regard to the fact that it has not been accepted by the Select Committee, nor has it been agreed to by the Corporation, and, above all,—I believe it will carry some weight with the Hon'ble Mover—it has been opposed by the Vice-Chairman of the Corporation—the Council will think very carefully before accepting the motion of my hon'ble learned friend."

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON said :—

"My Lord, the Hon'ble Mr. Apcar complains that the restriction in the present Act 'of a permanent nature' is too severe and he would have it modified. But he objects to its omission altogether as being too lenient. In the past Government has not interpreted 'of a permanent nature' in a strict way, but in the present Bill we are altering the system of payments to the Sinking Fund and proposing that they should be based on the duration of the loan. We therefore considered that there is no reason why the Corporation should not be allowed loans for short-lived works, provided they pay the debt within the life of the works. For that reason Government and the Select Committee decided to omit this phrase. The Hon'ble Mr. Apcar wishes now to restrict Government or the Corporation, but he proposes the words 'of a permanent nature, that is to say, works the cost of which ought, in the opinion of the Government, to be distributed over a term of years' be substituted for the words in the present Act. In the first place, I would point out that it is not the phrase used in the Public Health Act or in the Bombay Act. The words in those Acts are 'of a permanent nature including,' and the hon'ble member will no doubt see that this is a different thing from a definition. But taking the words as they are, I do not see what restriction they do really put on the Government or the Corporation. At present, the power of sanctioning a loan is with the Government of India and not with the Corporation. This amendment says in effect that Government may grant a loan to the Corporation for works for which Government think that a loan may be given to the Corporation. If we put it in those terms, it imposes absolutely no restriction on anybody. For these reasons, I am afraid I must oppose this amendment."

The motion was then put and lost.

The following motion was, by leave of the President, withdrawn :—

List of Amendments—Motion No. 3.—The Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur to move that the word "forty-seven" be substituted for the word "thirty" in line 3 of the first proviso to clause 128 (*1*).

List of Amendments—Motion No. 3A.—The Hon'ble Mr. Apcar moved that, for the existing provisos to clause 128 (*1*), the following be substituted, namely :—

"Provided as follows :—

(*i*) no loan shall be raised without the previous sanction of the Local Government, or (if the loan exceeds Rs. 5,00,000 or is to be repaid after a period exceeding thirty years) the Government of India ;

(*ii*) the rate of interest to be paid for any loan, and the terms (as to the time and method of repayment, and otherwise) upon which any loan is to be raised, shall be subject to the approval of the Local Government, or (if the loan exceeds Rs. 5,00,000 or is to be repaid after a period exceeding thirty years) the Government of India ;

(*iii*) the period within which a loan is to be repaid shall in no case exceed sixty years."

[*Mr. Apcar; Mr. Stephenson; Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur.*]

He said:—"I have very willingly undertaken to move this amendment at the request of the hon'ble member in charge. Clauses (*i*) and (*ii*) of the Amendment reproduce in effect the two first provisos of clause 128 of the Bill, but, if I may be permitted to say so, in a better form than was originally framed.

A third proviso, however, is included with the object of placing an arbitrary limit of 60 years on 'the period within which,' it should be observed the clause runs, 'a loan is to be repaid.'

My Lord, in considering this last point, we should not lose sight of the fact that under the English Housing Acts the limit is 80 years and in the London County Council it is 100 years. But personally I think that repayment in 60 years, that is, in two generations, is a sufficient period. I have an amendment to that effect lower down in the list. I personally prefer the terms of my own amendment for more than one reason. But I have accepted the invitation of the hon'ble member in charge in the spirit in which I have believed it to have been given, that is, in courtesy to myself in view of the amendment of which I already had given notice. When we both have the same object in view, I am, in the present instance, indifferent as to the terms. The limitation proposed is the same as that found in the English Public Health Act of 1875. I have a definite purpose in limiting the period. But as I shall have to refer to the point later, I refrain from entering into it now. Without further words, I beg to propose the amendment that I have been called upon by your Lordship to move."

The Hon'ble Mr. Stephenson said:—

I beg to accept this amendment on behalf of the Government.

The Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur said:—

"My Lord, the motion which has been moved by the Hon'ble Mr. Apcar, has, personally speaking, taken me by surprise; for, My Lord, having regard to the motion which stands in his name in the subsequent pages of the list of amendments, I fail to understand how this motion can be put forward at this stage. My Lord, the Bill, as it stands, I must say, is much better without the amendment than with the amendment. The Bill gives power to Government to sanction loans upon such terms and methods of repayment as the Government think fit. My Lord, the provision is sufficiently elastic. As has been well explained in the letters of the Government of India and of the Government of Bengal, it will enable any future Government, if they chose, on the representation of the Corporation in any exceptional case, to grant a loan extending over a period of even, say, 70 or 80 years. But, My Lord, the discretion of the Government would be fettered if the amendment is accepted and the Government would not be able to sanction any loan extending beyond the period of 60 years. We do not know, My Lord, what we gain by the amendment which has been proposed by the Hon'ble Mr. Apcar. I believe, My Lord, that Government would not be unwilling to leave the provision as it stands. It may be said that the period of loan will not be extended beyond 60 years, but when the controversy is forgotten, and the Corporation be in a better position to place before a future Government a very strong case, for instance, the remodelling of our outfall on account of the silting up of the Biddyadhuri, I think we may reasonably expect that even a longer period than 60 years will be granted by Government. We should not consider, and I for my part never consider, the Government to be unreasonable. I think that if we now restrict the power of the Government in this way by imposing a maximum period where there is no period now fixed under this clause, it will be a suicidal step on our part. I am therefore constrained to oppose this motion for this reason."

[*Babu Surendra Nath Banerji; Dr. Deba Prasad Sarbadhikari; Babu Mahendra Nath Ray.*]

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI said :—

"My Lord, may I just put in a word or two? My friends here, who do not belong to the Corporation, find themselves in a somewhat awkward situation. Here are two members of the Corporation, experts, thoroughly familiar with all matters connected with the Corporation; they are our guides, our friends and our philosophers. In this controversy, one says that we ought to accept the amendment and another says that we should not. I do feel, My Lord, that we, the independent section, are in a somewhat embarrassing position. But I think that there is just a slight ray of light which may lead us out of this difficulty. This is a restrictive measure fixing a maximum for the repayment of a loan. This restrictive measure I for one object to, and it is in conflict with the declared intentions of the Government, so far as this Bill is concerned. From the opening statement of the Hon'ble member in charge it appears that the Government is willing to restrict the time with due regard to the life of the work, but, My Lord, suppose the work is of such a gigantic character (as my hon'ble friend Rai R. C. Pal Bahadur has just referred to) that the repayment of it may take more than 60 years, we are here hampered by the provisions of this clause. It is conceivable that a case may arise in which the contingency is almost certain to happen where the repayment cannot possibly be made within 60 years. But this must be done if we accept this amendment. Therefore I think that we on this side of the house ought to oppose this motion and the Corporation ought to have more liberty. I think therefore, that even if this motion is accepted by the hon'ble member in charge, the fact will not persuade us to vote for it. The Corporation ought to have more liberty, and the restriction is inconsistent with the declaration of the Government that the repayment ought to extend over the life of the work."

The Hon'ble DR. DEBA PRASAD SARBADHIKARI said :—

"My Lord, I desire to associate myself with the opposition, but I do not deplore this division in the camp of experts. My friend will remember that they are both non-officials who vote in the interests of the rate-payers to the best of their light. There is no undue combination for the purpose of defeating the Government. We approach questions with the best of our light, and in a spirit that appeals to us and we vote accordingly. Apart from that, My Lord, it is not a chimerical view of things that the Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur is placing before the Council. In cities like Glasgow provisions for loans are for periods of more than 60 years in connection with questions of lands and buildings and other suitable assets that do not deteriorate in a hurry. I think there is every reason for extending the period of the loan as far as possible. The Government will be the best judge of the merits of every case in detail as it comes up, and they ought to have more liberty in a matter like this."

The Hon'ble BABU MAHENDRA NATH RAY said :—

"My Lord, I am opposed to prescribing a maximum period for the repayment of the loan. In connection with this there is a remark in the letter which was recently addressed by Your Excellency's Government to the Corporation which is somewhat singular. The Corporation expressed an apprehension that as the clause stood as drafted by the Select Committee it is possible that Government may not in a number of cases sanction a loan exceeding a period of 30 years, and in the letter which was addressed to the Corporation an attempt is made to remove that apprehension by not keeping the period of loan open, but by prescribing a maximum period. That letter we have recently read, and a portion of that letter runs thus :—'A proviso fixing a maximum term of 60 years for the currency of the Corporation's loan will therefore be added to clause 128 (1).' That is exactly what my hon'ble friend Mr. Apcar says, and the Governor in Council trusts that the apprehension of the Corporation with regard to this matter will be removed by the declaration of the intentions of the Government of India contained in the

foregoing quotation. The object is, I take it, with reference to what the Government of India told Your Excellency's Government, to remove any apprehension that in a large number of cases an application for a loan for a period exceeding 30 years would not be entertained. That apprehension is best removed by keeping the term open, and not by prescribing a maximum period. I take it, therefore, there is something wrong in the drafting of the letter which was addressed, and, if that is so, we can well see that instead of attaining the object which Your Excellency's Government had in view, *namely*, of removing any apprehension, an apprehension is likely to be caused in the case of any very large and extensive works and the insistence of a maximum period of 60 years may be fraught with considerable inconvenience."

The Hon'ble Mr. Lyon said :—

"My Lord, it may be of some assistance to the Hon'ble Mr. Apcar if I intervene in this discussion to explain a small point. The weight of the argument which has been put forward by the Hon'ble Mr. Surendra Nath Banerji, that liberty should be allowed to the Corporation in this matter, is somewhat diminished by the fact that the Corporation have themselves asked for the imposition of this limit. This request seems to me to be the dominant factor in all arguments referring to this amendment. As to the apprehension to which the Hon'ble Babu Mahendra Nath Ray has referred; if the correspondence is fully perused, it will be seen that the main apprehension which was expressed with reference to the question of the length of a loan was that the Corporation of Calcutta was going to be treated in some manner different from that in which the Corporation of Bombay was treated by the Government of India, and it was for that reason that the Corporation themselves thought it desirable that the same limitation that is entered in the Bombay Act should also be entered in the Calcutta Act. In these circumstances I think the weight of argument lies with the imposition of a limit of 60 years. I will not trouble the house by further arguments on this point, but I should like the house to note that the main reason for the limitation of 60 years is that some limit must be placed on the burdens which we may place on posterity in connection with works which we now consider to be best for the city of Calcutta."

The Hon'ble Mr. Apcar said :—

"I have been very willing to recognize that some limit can fairly be placed on the length of our loans, and it is in order that we should be facilitated in obtaining that which we so earnestly desire, that the period of the loans should be according to the life of the assets that I have consented to an arbitrary limitation of 60 years, and for which we have a precedent in the English Statute. It has been urged, and it could be urged with great force, that we are seeking an indefinite length of time for the repayment of loans, and that it is very possible that various changes may occur which will necessitate other expenditure and that the expenditure incurred for our works, without a definite specific period of limitation, will really operate seriously against posterity. It is in order to meet such arguments as these that I have advanced on my own part the amendment which I am glad to propose in this Council. If hon'ble members seek guidance from the Corporation, I can reassure them, as the hon'ble Mr. Lyon has already stated, the Corporation themselves have asked for the limitation for which I move. This view was accepted unanimously in Committee and confirmed without a dissentient voice in the Corporation meeting. It is not that I am desirous of restricting the powers of the Corporation, but it is in the hope of getting better treatment and more consideration in what I consider the most vital question in this discussion, that is, to be permitted to get our loans on such terms as will not be prejudiced by having a period of 30 years fixed in anticipation, but to have a term prescribed in accordance with the life of the asset with, however, the arbitrary limitation of two generations. That limitation is

accepted in England and I do not think that we should object to it for Calcutta."

The motion was then put and agreed to.

The following motion was, by leave of the President, withdrawn.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 4.—The Hon'ble Raja Hrishikesh Laha to move that after the second proviso to clause 128 (*1*), two new sub-clauses be inserted, namely :—

"(*1a*) Notwithstanding anything contained in sub-section (*1*), the period of repayment—

(*a*) for a work likely to last over 30 years, shall be either 60 years or the life of the work, whichever is longer ;

(*b*) for a work likely to last 30 years or less, shall be either 30 years or the life of the work, whichever is shorter ; and

(*c*) for a loan raised for works of varying lives shall be fixed according to the equated life of each of such works ;

and, for the purpose of raising emergent loans (for sums not exceeding 5 lakhs) repayable within six months, it shall not be necessary for the Corporation to secure the previous sanction of any other authority.

(*1b*) The rate of interest of an emergent loan shall be fixed by the Corporation, which shall have no power to raise any further loan of this kind until every previous loan so taken together with all interest due thereupon, has been repaid in full."

List of Amendments—Motion No. 5.—The Hon'ble Raja Hrishikesh Laha moved that, after the second proviso to clause 128 (*1*), the following new sub-clause be inserted, namely :—

"(*1a*) Notwithstanding anything contained in sub-section (*1*)—

(*a*) when a loan is raised for a work, the life of which exceeds 30 years, but does not exceed 60 years, the period of repayment shall be equal to the life of the work ; and when such loan is raised for a work, the life of which exceeds 60 years, the period of repayment shall in no case be less than 60 years ;

(*b*) when a loan is raised for works of varying lives not exceeding 30 years in duration, the period of repayment shall be fixed according to the life of each work, and the cost of each of the said works shall be treated as a separate item for the discharge of loan charges :

Provided that—

(*i*) debentures may ordinarily be issued for a period not exceeding 30 years, and

(*ii*) in the event of any portion of the said loan not being fully paid off at the maturity of the debenture, the Corporation shall be entitled to reborrow so as to make provision for the balance still due."

He said :—"Clause 128 provides that the Corporation may, from time to time, raise loans for the construction of works, for the acquisition of land, and for other purposes, subject to the previous sanction of either the Government of India or the Local Government, according to the amount and period of the loan.

[*Raja Hrishikesh Laha.*]

The restriction thus placed on the Corporation is no doubt salutary, inasmuch as a central controlling authority is necessary to exercise beneficial influence by preventing the raising of loans for unnecessary purposes and for keeping down the period of repayment, but the second proviso to sub-clause (*1*) of this clause leaves too much discretion to Government. The absence of any statutory direction to the authority which sanctions the loan is not at all desirable, and it is therefore necessary that some provision should be made for its guidance so that there may not be the least apprehension in the public mind of any possibility of an arbitrary exercise of power.

In the extract from a Resolution of the Government of India in the Finance Department No. 6564A., dated the 14th October, 1907, published in the Calcutta Gazette of 9th April, 1913, it has been expressly laid down 'that a term not longer than 20 or at most 30 years ought always to be sufficient, and no proposal for exceeding the latter period will be entertained unless it is supported by the strongest reasons, of which the immediate relief to the rate-payers will not be admitted as one.' Again in the letter from the Secretary to the Government of Bengal No. I. M., dated the 1st January, 1914, to the Chairman of the Corporation of Calcutta, the same view is reiterated in the following terms: 'The Government of India also desire it to be understood that the normal presumption will be that a period not exceeding 30 years is a sufficient term for the repayment of a loan and that the burden of proof that a longer period is required and justified in a particular case will rest on the applicant.' On the face of such declaration of policy by Government and in the absence of any provision in the Bill for fixing the period of repayment, the conclusion becomes irresistible that the above-mentioned resolutions would form the bases of sanctions for all loans to be raised by the Calcutta Corporation except in extraordinarily exceptional cases. It in a manner prejudges the whole question of Municipal loans, and gives rise to a doubt that no sanction for repayment will be made so as to equalize with the life of the asset. It would be against the trend of the present policy of the British Parliament, as we find in Turner's Repayment of Local and other Loans 'the present general policy of Parliament and of the Government departments charged with the duty of fixing the respective periods of repayment operates in the direction of equalizing the period of repayment and the life of the asset.' We further find :' It is also contended that if the repayment of the debt be spread over a very extended period, the interest paid equals and soon exceeds the amount of the principal. This is not itself a very good reason against the extended period of repayment seeing that its effect is to spread the burden over a greater number of generations who derive benefit from the outlay, provided always that the works continue to meet the needs of the community and subsequent generations do actually derive the benefit therefrom.' This puts the whole problem in a nutshell. The Calcutta Corporation does not want anything more than what is so succinctly stated above. The most important point involved is the life or the durability of the work, and my submission is that the period of the debenture of a long-term loan exceeding 30 years should correspond with the life of the work, so that when the life is extinguished the loan would be extinguished too. I do not therefore propose that in a long-term loan there should be any power of reborrowing, and my reason for doing away with this power is this. Since 1885 trade and commerce have expanded to a considerable extent, and with the large influx of capital the rate of interest has considerably fallen, and with this fall the Calcutta Corporation has been able in former years to reduce the rate of their interest from 6 per cent. to 4 per cent. But in the present condition of things it is not possible to make any further reduction, as then the Corporation debentures will have to stand the risk of a competition with Government promissory notes. It will lose its character of a favourite investors' stock and surely be left very much behind in the race with Government papers. It may be argued that if Government reduce their interest to 3 per cent. there may be a chance for the Corporation to reduce its interest also to 3½ per cent., but there is no possibility of Government repeating their sad experience of a 3 per cent. loan with the paper at a discount of about 19 per cent.

[*Raja Hrishikesh Laha.*]

If ordinarily each generation of rate-payers were to undertake to fully finance the cost of works initiated by it, then the incentive to substantial and useful works of permanent character or long projects which require much outlay, the repayment of which extends beyond the life of a generation, will be taken away, as the present generation will always try to shirk the works in order to avoid imposing the whole burden of expenditure upon itself. This means increase in taxation caused by the payment of contribution to the Sinking Fund at a much increased rate.

It may as well be here discussed what effect a long-term loan would have on the finances of the Corporation. There is always a fear expressed that we will be doing a great injustice to posterity if we place unfair burdens on their shoulders when they have no voice in the initiation of an undertaking and when they have their own requirements to provide for. But if we consider this question carefully, the advantages would far outweigh the disadvantages in the long run. There may be some obsolescent works which they will have to pay for, but they will become possessors of many works in connection with lands and buildings, the loans for which the present generation has repaid, and for which they will not have to pay a single pice, not to mention lucrative undertakings, such as markets which bring in a handsome return. The life of land is perpetual, and that of buildings over a century if kept in proper repairs. Would it therefore be fair and equitable to demand that the interests of the present generation should be sacrificed to those of posterity by imposing on the former the entire burden of payment of the loan charges. If a loan is repaid within the period of the life of the work, then both the present generation and posterity will have no cause for complaint, and both will enjoy the benefit of the work during their lifetime. If we examine what effect a loan of 30 lakhs, redeemable in 30 years, will have on the revenue of the Corporation, we will find the contribution to the Sinking Fund at 2 per cent. would be Rs. 60,000, and interest to debenture-holders at 4 per cent. Rs. 1,20,000, that is, the revenue fund will have altogether to pay Rs. 1,80,000; but if the loan be redeemable in 47 years, the amount of loan charges at 1 per cent. would be Rs. 30,000 and interest Rs. 1,20,000 together Rs. 1,50,000. The loss to the Corporation will amount to Rs. 30,000. The Vice-Chairman of the Calcutta Corporation has demonstrated by actuarial calculation that it is the more advantageous to repay a loan of 34 lakhs in 47 years than in 30 years, and, if yearly payments of loan charges are made, there would be a saving in the longer period as compared with the shorter period, of Rs. 82,292, and if half-yearly payments are made, of Rs. 98,372. Hence it is not so uneconomical to extend the period of re ayment from 30 to 47 years, as it has been supposed to be, and it would not be helping a 'policy of waste' as it has been stated. Nor am I convinced by the recent pronouncement made in the letter already referred to, viz., 'that the payments on account of a 47-year loan and a 30-year loan are the same actuarily, and they do not appear to detract in any way from the force of the criticism that in actual practice the Corporation loses heavily over the aggregate payments in the case of longer loans.

It has been said that the long-term loan is more advantageous to the lender than the borrower, as the money which leaves the hand of the latter brings in no pecuniary return, but is only applied to improvement conducive to health and public convenience. It is no doubt unproductive in the sense that the result does not admit of pecuniary measurement. On this point I state the reasons given by Mr. Crozier in his 'First Principles of Investment,' which are apt and to the point, and which I hope will be considered cogent and conclusive, 'It is true that the loans are expended as often on financially unremunerative as on productive works. Education, bridges, highways, street improvements, sewerage and parks, for example, yield no pecuniary return and, as business propositions, are apparently nothing but an incubus on the rates. But this is not really so, for it is precisely works of utility, convenience, ornament or sanitation like these that add to the value of the house property on whose rates a large part of the security of these loans is founded; so that they are rather an additional security than a detriment.'

[*Raja Hrishikesh Laha ; Mr. Chakravarti.*]

Under the circumstances it would be a better policy to hold that the term of a loan should be coeval with the life of the work for which the loan is raised, and without handicapping the Corporation as representing the present generation of rate-payers with the burdensome task of repaying the full amount of the loan, the benefit of which will also be enjoyed by the future generation, leave the Corporation to carry out its own projects which mean improvement and progress of the town. The fight for a short-term or a long-term loan is a fight for a principle, and I will quote only the report of the Select Committee appointed to enquire as to statutory conditions limiting the periods for the payment of loans by the local authorities in England and Wales in order to show that posterity is not palced at a disadvantage. "Although the Committee have thought it right to devote special attention to the financial aspect of the question submitted to them, they do not consider that the divergent interests of the present and the future rate-payers can be satisfactorily adjusted upon purely financial consideration. Posterity may derive advantage of a moral and physical character from some portion of the expenditure of the present day. It is not possible to set any accurate pecuniary value upon these advantages."

I am convinced that it is not only sound finance, but good morals that a public body in borrowing money for the construction of works of a permanent nature should be authorized to fix the period of repayment of a loan on the basis of durability and continuing utility of the works, even though the period should be over 60 years. But out of deference to the view taken by the Government of India and the Corporation, I am willing that the maximum period of repayment for a loan should be fixed at 60 years.

As regards my second amendment, loans which are raised for works of varying lives and which are not supposed to exist for 30 years, such as machinery, steam rollers, stone-setting, kerbing and channelling, etc., a period of repayment of debentures for the same shall be a period less than 30 years. But in that event a subsidiary loan for a short term, that is, for the period which would be required to improve the Sinking Fund to the full amount of the balance of the original loan, will be necessary. The power of reborrowing a short-term loan is necessary in order not to make the loan charges a heavy burden on the revenue funds of the Municipality. The average of the short-term and long-term loans that would be raised every year would not, I think, curtail the borrowing capacity of the Corporation to any serious extent. It will, however, make the Corporation very careful in submitting estimates for miscellaneous works ; for if they undertake any work without proper consideration, the contribution it will have to make to the Sinking Fund will make a heavy inroad upon their revenue, and will automatically act as a check upon ill-digested and ill-considered undertakings. Government will also exercise restrictive influence by investigating each case in order to see that the period of utility and repayment agree before they come to a decision."

The Hon'ble Mr. Chakravarti said :—

"My Lord, I support this amendment, and I frankly confess that I have not had the experience of the Hon'ble Raja Hrishikesh Laha with regard to municipal finance, or that of the other members from the Corporation ; but it strikes me from the point of view of an ordinary citizen that the amendment should commend itself to this House. The position is this : What is contended for is that, when a piece of work is executed by raising a loan which not only benefits the present generation, but must, from the nature of the work, benefit the next generation, everybody who participates in the benefit arising from the work should contribute towards the expense. It seems to me sound and fair reason. As far as I have heard, the objection to this fair treatment of the present generation and the next seems to be this : In the first place, there is no Local Government Board here to check the action of the Corporation, and therefore what has been found to be financially sound and fair to the present generation and to posterity in England, where municipal government has gone on for a great length of time, and where, after a great deal of groping, they have come to a similar conculsion—that principle which

is accepted there ought not to be accepted here. Well, my answer with regard to this argument is twofold: In the first place, if the difficulty is because there is no particular institution for the purposes of check over the action of the Corporation, have such an institution. My other answer is: In point of fact no loan can be raised without the sanction of Your Excellency's Government or the Government of India, and surely I am entitled to say that there is such an amount of talent in your Lordship's Government as well as in the Imperial Government that before sanctioning a loan and in deciding as regards the period of repayment (that is, the life of a work) there will be plenty of enlightened knowledge for the purposes of check. Then, another argument has been put forward, that the Corporation is bound to go on, and that in point of fact we ought to have the instinct of a shopkeeper.—that we are to look at the rupees—but that we ought to be generous towards posterity. Well, my Lord, when a question of finance arises, I always try to look after myself. This is for the benefit of the present generation as well as the next. Everybody who benefits ought to contribute towards the expense. I do not quite see that this is a benevolent institution, and therefore I am to contribute 2 per cent. during my lifetime for 30 years, in order that the man who comes after me is probably for another 17 or 20 years to enjoy the benefits of the work which my money has contributed towards providing.

It has been suggested that we ought to be charitable. Well, so far as private charity is concerned, any one is quite welcome to contribute towards the public funds for the purposes of conferring benefit upon the next generation; but when we have to take into consideration not the rich ratepayers only, but also the poor ratepayers, who are concerned with regard to the contribution which is to be paid into the Sinking Fund of 2 per cent., one must bear in mind that they can hardly make both ends meet. The cost of living has gone up, the ratepayers' life is very hard and, under these circumstances, I am bound to say, out of a somewhat benevolent desire to confer benefit upon posterity, we are to place on them burdens which are not morally the burdens of the present generation.

Then, further, my Lord, what has been pointed out is this: that scientific improvements, especially as regards sanitary measures, are proceeding so fast that we may set up some work now on which we spend a large sum of money, and in a few years it may be found out that the work is obsolete. My answer with regard to that is that the apprehension does not seem to be based upon reason. Conceivably there may be an occasion like that and it may happen in any part of the world; but here the municipal government by a corporation is an introduction from the West. The policy is a policy of imitation so far as is possible for the conditions of this country. We are practically taking the particular Acts which have been passed in England as our model for legislation in this part of the country. If invention, especially in regard to sanitary measures, proceeds apace—it does proceed apace in England, and if there, notwithstanding the fact that the people are inventing things from time to time which supersede previous appliances, they do not have any apprehension with regard to these questions of any particular work becoming obsolete, we might take their action as a guide to model our legislation upon. I notice that the Hon'ble Raja Hrishikesh Laha has restricted the period to 60 years. That is in accordance with an amendment which has already been carried, and apparently it is in accordance with the wishes of the Corporation and the wishes of the Government of India. Therefore I venture to think that the amendment that he has proposed—I mean the first part of it—ought to commend itself to this House. Then with regard to the second part, what the amendment says is this: There may be a number of works for which a particular loan is raised, and the life of the work is not more than 30 years. Well, under those circumstances, money has to be raised by a loan, and the loan is raised for a particular period; that is, the debenture may mature at a period when the loan is not liable to be repaid, or it may be liable to be repaid. In any event, what is sought for is this: That in effect if there should be still a certain period to run after the maturity of the debenture, the Corporation should have power to borrow for the balance,

the amount already in the Sinking Fund being not sufficient to pay off the loan. In these circumstances I have great pleasure in supporting this amendment."

The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR said :—

"My Lord, in dealing with this amendment it is necessary to examine briefly the policy of the legislature in the past regarding the repayment of loans. From 1863, when the Corporation of Calcutta was established with a nominated body of the Justices of the Peace for the town of Calcutta, the interest to be paid for loans and the time of repayment of the loans were left to the Justices subject to the approval of the Lieutenant-Governor. In 1876, when a partial elective system was introduced under the government of Sir Richard Temple, in the Act of that year the sinking fund contribution was fixed at not less than 2 per cent., thereby binding the Corporation to a loan of not more than thirty years. For four years this Act was in operation and it was found that the burden upon the revenue fund became so heavy as to cripple the resources of the Corporation and to retard the development of the city. Two courses were open to the Corporation to adopt—one was to raise municipal taxation to meet the heavier sinking fund charges of yearly-increasing loan works, and the other was to amend the law by reducing the sinking fund contribution from 2 to 1 per cent., thereby extending the period of repayment from 30 to 47 years. With regard to the first course, the then Lieutenant-Governor, Sir Ashley Eden, observed in his letter to the Government of India : 'Municipal taxation in Calcutta is very high, and the Lieutenant-Governor believes that any increase in the rates will seriously interfere with the progress of the town.' Under these circumstances, the Lieutenant-Governor recommended to the Government of India a reduction of contribution from 2 to 1 per cent., that is to say, the period of repayment of loan was extended from 30 to 47 years. When I contrast the legislation of 1881 with the legislation of to-day, I cannot help observing that, in a small nominated Council, a non-official member, the accredited mouthpiece of the Corporation, was permitted to introduce a Bill with the object of reducing the sinking fund contribution from 2 to 1 per cent. and succeeded in passing it through the Council with the support of the Government. To-day in this expanded Council, an official member introduces a Bill repealing the beneficent legislation of the past. From 1881 up till now, the Corporation have been raising loans for the execution of new works with a period of repayment of 47 years. The outstanding loans from 1881 to date amount to nearly five crores. The borrowed money has not been spent in vain. The assessed value of the town increased since 1881 from Rs. 1,31,71,000 to Rs. 3,92,81,000 in 1913. The borrowing capacity has increased during the same period. It will thus be seen that 47 years' term of loan has not in any way jeopardised or even remotely affected the financial position of the Corporation. On the contrary, the development of the town has been accelerated by the larger amount of money rendered available by reason of the Sinking Fund contribution being limited to 1 per cent., or, in other words, the period of repayment being lengthened from 30 to 47 years and the finances of the Corporation are consequently in a thoroughly sound condition. If such reduction from 2 to 1 per cent. had not been allowed, the Corporation would have been forced to spend considerably less money on works for the development of the town. The Loans Chapter of the current Municipal Act did not require any amendment but for one unfortunate defect in one section of the Act which prevented payments of interest and sinking fund contribution to the full period of 47 years, on the amount withdrawn from the sinking fund for repayment of debentures before the period of maturity of the sinking fund in the same period. If the debentures had been issued for 47 years instead of for 15, 20 or 30 years, as was actually the case, the 1-per-cent. sinking fund would have continued to the end of 47 years and the full amount of the loan would have gone on accumulating without interruption and there would not have been any difficulty in accumulating the entire amount required to repay

the loan in full. The shortage in the sinking fund was discovered by our Vice-Chairman, and although, until the Act is amended, the Corporation cannot pay into the sinking fund the sum required to make up the shortage, still they are setting apart as advised by our learned Vice-Chairman by voluntary annual contribution a certain sum of money into a reserve fund in the Bank of Bengal to make up the shortage. Sir Edward Baker considered the amendment was necessary only to cure the defect in the law to enable the sinking fund to grow, but expressed a decided opinion that sinking contribution should not be increased or in other words the 47 years' term for repayment of loans should not be shortened. Although Sir Edward Baker intimated, in his letter of the 16th August, 1910, that legislation would be undertaken to remedy this defect, the publication of this Bill in its present form has taken the public by surprise. The main provisions of the Bill are not only opposed to the intention of the Government of Bengal, as expressed in 1910, but also opposed to the views as expressed by such officers of Government as Mr. Gauntlett and the Hon'ble Mr. Payne. Mr. Gauntlett observed: 'The burden of the loan is regulated by the sinking fund and it would be a serious reversion of the Government policy for the last thirty years if the order is now passed that the payments to the sinking fund be made at a rate which will extinguish the loan in thirty years.' The Hon'ble Mr. Payne observed: 'The present provision of 1 per cent. sinking fund was decided upon after much argument; it does not appear to be advisable to go back upon it.' The Corporation had submitted that the period of repayment of loan may be fixed at 47 years with the obligation to continue the payment of contribution to the sinking fund to the end of that period to discharge the loan. Finding the Government inexorable they submitted that the period of repayment be equated to the average life of the various kinds of loan works on the lines laid down in Collin's book. They have still further modified their request in order to conform, as nearly as possible, to the wishes of the Government on the matter. What they now want is that the term of a loan should be suitably adjusted to the life of the works, as is well stated in paragraph 3 in the Statement of Objects and Reasons of the Bill. My Lord, the Government letter, dated the 11th September, 1912, contained the following declaration: 'The normal term of 30 years would not be extended, except on the strongest grounds.' The Corporation was alarmed at this declaration and prayed that at least the period of the repayment of a loan be adjusted to the life of the works and even offered to submit to a maximum term of 60 years if the durability of the works executed out of loan fund was held to be the sole guiding principle in determining the period of repayment of a loan. My Lord, in the reply of Government to this representation communicated to the Corporation at the beginning of this month, it is stated: 'The Government of India also desired to be understood that the normal presumption will be that a period not exceeding 30 years is a sufficient term for the repayment of a loan and that the burden of proof that a longer period is required and justified in a particular case will rest on the applicant.' Further, while agreeing to fix a maximum term of 60 years for the currency of a loan it was stated 'that while due attention will be paid to the expected durability of the works for which a loan is proposed, the intrinsic durability of such work is not the sole factor to be considered.' My Lord, I fail to understand what concesssion has been made, as we were led to believe from the very kind and sympathetic reply of His Excellency the Viceroy to the address from the Corporation. The existing provisions to clause 128 clearly contemplate the possibility of loans for a longer period than thirty years. The addition of the proviso restricting the maximum period to 60 years does not at all improve the situation, but, on the contrary, I venture to submit, is more disadvantageous to the Corporation. For, if in the future an exceptionally strong case is made out for a loan for a term exceeding 60 years and the Government be convinced of the justice of the case, no loan for a period exceeding 60 years could be granted. I admit, my Lord, that we have to thank ourselves and some of our colleagues in the Corporation for this against the advice of our financial expert. I frankly confess that, to my mind, the existing proviso without a restricted maximum,

[*Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur ; Rai Priya Nath Mukharji Bahadur.*]

if we are to lose the term of 47 years which we are destined to lose, is better than the proposed proviso with a maximum restricted to 60 years.

My Lord, it has been abundantly shown that in England the period of repayment of a loan is fixed according to the life of the works for which the loan is raised. According to the English Public Health Act, the period of durability of works is the only principle on which the period of repayment is fixed. Turner, in his book entitled 'Repayment of Local and Other Loans' observes : 'The present general policy of Parliament and of the Government departments, charged with the duty of fixing the respective period of repayment, operates in the direction of equalizing the period of repayment and the life of the assets.' It is needless to say that the adoption of this principle equalises the burden upon the generations of the ratepayers benefited by the works. On this point the Select Committee of the House of Commons reported as follows : 'Your committee, however, are not unmindful of the fact that it is neither wise nor just to place upon the shoulders of present ratepayers too large a burden of necessary or useful works from which succeeding generations will derive benefit. To do so would be to put a serious check upon the execution of such works.'

Assuming that a long-term loan involves payment of the same amount in value as that of a short-term one, the resultant benefits to be derived from the former far outweighs those of the latter. For a long-term loan enables the borrowing authority to execute additional useful works with the available loan charges than a short-term one and the earlier execution of such works enhances the value of land and buildings and makes for profits and development of the city. For example, assume that loan charges available are Rs. 2,04,000. With this available amount a loan of 34 lakhs could be raised repayable in 30 years, but, if instead of a loan of 30 years a loan repayable in 47 years be raised, then the loan charges will be Rs. 1,70,000 and that there will be a saving of Rs. 2,04,000 − 1,70,000 = Rs. 34,000. On this saving of Rs. 34,000 a further loan of Rs. 6,80,000 could be raised repayable in 47 years ; so that more capital works could be executed for the improvement and development of the city which again will enhance the borrowing capacity of the Corporation.

My Lord, unless the period of repayment of loans is made conterminous with the life of the work, there is the danger of saddling the present generation of ratepayers with too heavy a burden of the cost of the works which should fairly and justly be shared by the succeeding generations. It is inevitable that the execution of necessary and useful works will be put off or abandoned and the city will inevitably suffer. I earnestly hope Your Excellency's Council will see its way to affirm the principle adopted in England by accepting the amendment which has been moved."

(His Excellency at this stage left the Chamber, the Hon'ble Sir William Duke, Vice-President, taking the chair.)

The Hon'ble Rai Priya Nath Mukharji Bahadur said :—

"In the consideration of the proposal just made by my hon'ble friend, may I crave the permission of the House to direct its attention to a few points of municipal finance ?

In theory, the rates that the Corporation levies for the year ought to provide for all the municipal amenities of the town. But that would be impossible without having very high rates which would press heavily on the ratepayers. Therefore it has to raise loans which is only another way of making the revenue of future years available in the present, so that you are practically using other people's money for which it is necessary that there should be safeguards. We cannot put the present and future generations into separate compartments. We must extend our range of vision over a large series of years and treat the ratepayer as an entity which has, as Sir Oliver Lodge lately said, a continued existence. We, the

present generation, are the heirs to a great many things which our predecessors have done for us, and there is no reason why we should not be prepared to do a few things for our successors: at the same time they should also bear a reasonable share of the burden.

The next point we come to is—After we raise loans, how shall we repay them.? We *have* to repay them. Prudence in all commercial undertakings dictates that we should repay in the shortest possible time. But in actual practice it really depends on the Corporation's ability to pay without embarrassing itself and the period is fixed accordingly. For a big loan with heavy loan charges to pay it would make all the difference whether you are paying 2 per cent. to the Sinking Fund for a 30-year loan or ½ per cent. for a 60-year loan. If you have a loan of a crore, you will have to pay two lakhs to the Sinking Fund at 2 per cent. and at ½ per cent. you pay only half a lakh; one lakh and a half is a big difference and you cannot always afford to pay that. With a small loan the case might be different. Now, surely, the life of the work should be the principal factor in fixing the term of the loan. It cannot be held to be the sole factor. If you are going to strictly regulate the period of the loan to the life of the work, that is, to equate the period of the loan to the life of the work you might get into serious difficulties. First, in the case of land, if the loan is invested in land, the land will last for all time. You may not be paying back your loan at all, but that will not certainly be seriously contended; in fact, the Hon'ble Raja Hrishikesh Laha has said that, in the case where the life of the work exceeds 60 years, it should be paid within 60 years. We must not exceed that period.

In every work there will be machinery, plant, building and land, and each of these has a different life, and many such works, each containing parts with different lives, will be comprised in one loan. In England, they generally go into the market for a big loan for a big work; but in the Calcutta Corporation we all know—and I had reason to know for some years—that they put twenty or thirty different things into a loan of thirty or forty lakhs.

Then, as has been admitted, there is no department here like the strong Local Government Board of experts in England who send down an Inspector who goes and looks into local conditions and sees under what conditions the work will be carried out, and advises the Board to fix the term of the loan. Here we would enter into endless argument before the life of the work was at all fixed. Then, of course, the probable duration of a loan may be shortened for reasons which we may not be able to foresee at the time the work is begun. Here we have the case of the Harrington Incinerator at the top of Dharamtala Street, which was scrapped in five years, although the loan was to be repaid in probably thirty years; in fact, the loan may be running now. At a certain period in the history of the Corporation, pumping was supposed to be the correct thing for waterworks and they constructed a chain of pumping-stations elaborately equipped at great cost. Mr. MacCabe came along and he advised the Corporation that the gravitation system was the best and the whole of the pumping-stations were scrapped for no fault of their own, but for the fact that something better came along.

Then, again, there is the threatened silting-up of the Bidyadhari river and any day the Corporation may be called upon to construct a new drainage system on that account. So that the life of a work cannot be fixed for certain when you are constructing the work. All the above factors enter into the consideration of fixing the period of a loan.

If you want, as in clause 2, to cut up the loan into bits for each thing which is intended to be constructed with the loan and treat each bit separately for calculating the loan charges upon it, it will be tremendously inconvenient. We ought, therefore, to consider these points before we accept this motion.

[*Mr. Shorrock; Mr. Lyon.*]

The Hon'ble Mr. Shorrock said :—

"It seems to me that, if this amendment be adopted, it will provide a pretty problem for some one to solve; for, as we have just heard, what is the life of a work? It is certainly not the life of the materials of which that work is composed. A better definition is probably 'the period of utility'. With a new work who is going to say or know what that period may be? It is no uncommon thing, as we have also just heard, to find a work, which, on its day of completion, represented the last word in construction and mechanical appliances, scrapped long before any deterioration of material had taken place, simply because it had ceased to perform the functions for which it was intended. How do we know that a body of expert opinion may not some day arise who will say that Calcutta must have a water-supply 20 miles farther up the river in order to insure a purer supply? How do we know that Sanitary Engineers may not come and change the whole of the sanitation and drainage arrangements? How do we know that the whole of Calcutta street-lighting may not become obsolete in a few years? If a community demand conveniences, the community must pay, and the cheapest form is to pay cash; but, as it is impossible in municipal works to provide ready cash, the payment must extend over a period and the only fair thing is to spread such payments over the generation that is to enjoy the conveniences. Each generation should pay its way and Calcutta can afford to do so. In my opinion it would be sounder if this Bill clearly defined that all loans must be repayable in 30 years. Exception might be made in certain cases. In the case of land, the date of repayment with the approval of Government may be extended to more than 30 years. Such being my views I am opposed to this amendment."

The Hon'ble Mr. Lyon said :—

"I wish to intervene for a few moments with reference to a point which seems to have escaped a great many Hon'ble Members who have supported the amendment and which has specially escaped Mr. Byomkesh Chakravarti. It seems to me that, in the argument he used, which was entirely addressed to the principle that the length of a loan should be determined by the life of a work, he was setting up a man of straw for the pleasure of knocking him down. The history of this case must be recalled to understand what the point is which is brought before us now. It will be in the recollection of this Council that the gravest objections were expressed, when the Bill was first brought in, both in the Corporation and in this Council, to certain restrictions which had been imposed, not in the Bill but in a letter from the Governmentof India, as to the length of the loans which would be sanctioned in the future. The statements made in the letter practically implied that the Government of India would never consent to any loans except 30-year loans. I think it is on the basis of a state of affairs which existed then but which does not exist now that a great deal of the Hon'ble Raja Hrishikesh Laha's address has been founded. We have gone a good deal further since then. We recognised that this was a great stumbling block, for the same reason as in the other case I referred to in speaking on another amendment just now, that loans are being granted to another Corporation for a longer term than 30 years at the present time, and that this Corporation did not understand why it should be restricted to 30-year loans if another Corporation could get them for a longer period. It was also said that there were no indications that the question of the life of the work would be considered at all by the Government of India when it was dealing with this question. These matters appeared to this Government to be of some importance and to warrant apprehensions which had to be considered by us as a responsible Government, and that was one of the chief reasons why a postponement of the Bill was arranged for in order that these apprehensions might be dealt with and that we might be in a position to explain the matter more fully to the Council. We heard further from the Corporation on the subject and, on the receipt of a letter from the Corporation, we wrote to the Government of India.

[*Mr. Lyon ; Babu Surendra Nath Banerji.*]

The Government of India have, on reconsideration, dealt with the matter from a different point of view from that assumed by them originally. They have now said—and the papers are before the Council—that they do not desire that the currency of such loans shall in practice be invariably restricted to 30 years. I call the attention of the Council to the very great difference between that announcement and the announcement previously made by the Government of India. They have met us fully on the point. They have assured this Government that the Corporation is to be treated in this respect entirely on the same lines as the Corporation of Bombay, and such importance was attached to the subject that His Excellency the Viceroy went out of his way, in addressing the Corporation, to allude to this particular matter. I think in view of that position taken up by the Government of India—the view that they will not invariably restrict the loan to 30 years in the future, and the further statement that they propose to have due regard to the life of the work in considering the length of the loan adopted is a great advance on the previous state of affairs. The whole argument used by Mr. Byomkesh Chakravarti and two or three other speakers have ignored this statement of the Government of India, and they have proceeded on the assumption that we will not have any regard to the life of the work and that we are determined to have short loans as against long loans. As a matter of fact we have granted the general principle that the probable life of a work must be considered when the term for a loan for its construction is determined, but with the necessary qualification—which has been ably explained by the Hon'ble Mr. Mukherjee and the Hon'ble Mr. Shorrock—that the life of the work is not the sole consideration to be taken into account. This being the state of affairs, the question before us now is—Are we going to trust to the statement of the Government of India, which has been specifically made in order to meet our views, and be content with that statement, and leave the discretion with them, as in Bombay and in Madras and elsewhere in India, to decide as to the term of the loan, or are we going definitely to declare that we propose to restrict their discretion and insist by statutory provision that they shall have regard to the life of the work ? I need hardly point out that the long amendment now proposed gives many loopholes for lawyers, and Mr. Apcar will bear me out when I say that, while it would be practically impossible for a municipality in England to go to law with the Local Board on the subject of the terms of a loan, I have reason to doubt whether, with our experience in India, we can be entirely confident that a legal point will not be brought up in a Civil Court to defeat the determination of Government in such a matter. I think that this is a strong argument against forcing our hands in this way and against insisting on statutory provisions to take the place of the undertaking already given by the Government of India. I don't think this is the time when we can impose limits on the discretion of the Government of India in their control of the Corporation in loan matters. It seems to me that it is absolutely necessary that everything should be done to support the credit of the Corporation, to encourage investment and to avoid the introduction of qualifications or alterations which are likely to induce any doubts in the minds of timid capitalists. For this reason I think it would be unwise at the present moment to restrict the power and discretion of the Government of India by insisting on a statutory limitation or statutory qualification of their discretion in the matter of the terms of a loan."

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANARJI said :—

"Under the terms of the amendment moved by the Hon'ble Raja Hrishikesh Laha I don't think it is proposed in any way to limit the discretion of the Government of India by any statutory provision. As I read the amendment it seeks to give effect to that declaration by making the period of repayment coincident with the life of the work. I think that is all the Raja wants to do. There has been some difficulty raised with regard to the life of the work. My hon'ble

[*Babu Surendra Nath Banerji; Babu Mahendra Nath Ray; Dr. Deba Prasad Sarbadhikari.*]

friend, Rai Priya Nath Mukharji Bahadur, has observed that in the loans, which the Corporation is in the habit of contracting or which it contracts from time to time, very many little things are brought in and it would be very difficult to estimate the life of the work, having regard to the manner in which these loans are contracted. I should think there ought to be no difficulty. It ought to be possible to eliminate these little things and to estimate the life of the work. In other countries—in European countries there is no difficulty. In Bombay and Madras they find no difficulty; why should we have any here? I think this is a matter of administration which can be easily controlled. That is one of the points which have been raised by my learned friend.

Then, another point that has been suggested is that we have not the same controlling agency as they have in England in the shape of a Local Government Board. The Local Government Board exercises great powers of superintendence and control which the Government here does not. It would be easy enough to establish a Local Government Board, and if the financial difficulty stood in the way of the creation of a Local Government Board it would be easy enough to arm Government with such powers of control in respect of those loans. I think these two objections should not stand in the way in determining the repayment of loans by reference to the life of the work. The principle has been laid down by the Government of India, my friend says, in the statutory provisions. We appreciate that. I say in view of the dictum of the Government of India and of the answer given by His Excellency the Viceroy in reply to the deputation that the life of a work is a determining factor in the repayment of loans—I do not think the Government can go back on that declaration—I am sure it will not go back. I hope and trust this Council will not allow the Government to go back upon that declaration. We have that statement definitely made by the highest authority, and I think we are entitled to ask the Local Government to give effect to it, if not as a matter of statute, at least as a mandate and a direction."

The Hon'ble BABU MAHENDRA NATH RAY said :—

"I feel some difficulty in this matter, having already had some mathematical training when I was a young man. This amendment moved by Raja Hrishikesh Laha and some other amendments that follow make the assumption that the life of a work can be calculated not approximately but with exact precision; because I find in some of these amendments—at any rate in the amendments which is before us—the expression 'life of the work.' That presupposes the possibility of determining with mathematical precision the life of a work. It is not a question of approximate calculation within certain limits. I should therefore be obliged if the Hon'ble Mr. Lyon or the Hon'ble Mr. Stephenson would enlighten us whether, as a matter of fact, from a purely theoretical point of view, they could enlighten us, whether, given the elements which constitute the work, the life can in each case be determined with exact precision; because, if it cannot be, this amendment aims at something which is impossible. For instance, this particular motion before us says, 'when a loan is raised for a work, the life of which exceeds 30 years but does not exceed 60 years, the period of repayment shall be equal to the life of the work.' That contemplates as an exact possibility the determination of the life of a work—not an approximate calculation but a precise one. If, therefore, we are informed (because this is a vital point) by the opinion of experts from the theoretical point of view that the life of a work can be calculated, then there is, from the point of view of principle, no objection to accepting the amendment. On the other hand, if the life can only be determined approximately within certain limits or within a range, then the very wording of the amendment would be unacceptable. This is the difficulty which I feel, and I have no doubt that either the Hon'ble Mr. Lyon or the Hon'ble Mr. Stephenson will be in a position to give us the necessary information."

The Hon'ble DR. DEBA PRASAD SARBADHIKARI said :—

"It is not an exact accurate mathematical datum on which to proceed to an approximate limit which has always been adopted for business purposes.

If, for example, by calculations, with which my hon'ble friend seems to be less familiar than even non-mathematical men, actuaries find that the life of a work is fifty years, they make a reasonable and sometimes a more than reasonable deduction and fix it at forty years. That is the idea underlying the question of equality of this life of a work—call it equal, equated or equivalent. We are fully protected for the time being in that the judge of such life is the very Government which will have to sanction the loan. We are not starting afresh to-night upon an experiment of an unknown kind in determining the age of these loans, as if the art of the ultra accurate calculations that has frightened my mathematical friend had to be taken entirely into consideration. If you could afford it, the Hon'ble Mr. Shorrock's plan would be the best, 'Pay cash for whatever you can.' That would suit the trades' and the merchants' ideal. On the other hand, loans payable when able would be excellent from the borrower's point of view. Like the Jew of old, the pound of flesh must not however be extracted at the moment if practical reality be considered and a *via media* between these extremes ought to be the real ideal. The Government has the sole controlling voice in the matter. They have accepted certain principles with regard to which statutory signposts will be useful; so that in Secretariats there will be no likelihood of mistake. For even Homer sometimes nods and if, now and again, the High Court's aid is invoked to rouse and keep straight a nodding Homer, I hope the Hon'ble Mr. Lyon will have no lasting grievance with regard to that. Having these prominent statutory signposts before them, the chances of nodding will be less. That is all that this amendment aims at. I do not know, Sir, after the Government's declaration, why there should be any objection to emphasise the matter and to make it as clear as possible. We are not trying to usurp the right for the Corporation, as the Government will have to sanction the loans.

The Hon'ble Mr. Surendra Nath Banerji referred to the division of opinion in the expert's camp, so far as non-official members are concerned; but we notice the same division in the official camp.

The Hon'ble Rai Priya Nath Mukharji's opinion has great weight. He was Secretary to the Corporation for a long time and he worked very satisfactorily. But, what about the Chairman, the Hon'ble Mr. Payne, who is here and has most unmistakably said that it would be a great mistake to go back upon what was arrived at at the instance of the late Krista Das Pal whose battle is now being fought by his worthy son (Rai R. C. Pal Bahadur)? We had expert official opinion with regard to that. Official opinion of a different kind is propounded by the Hon'ble Mr. Mukharji. Mr. Banerji's difficulty in regard to non-official division of opinion extends to officials as well. Therefore I do not think that we shall be losing much if we accept this amendment. After the lurid way in which the image of these fast-decaying scientific works has been painted to-night, we should not be able to embark on any undertaking at all, because in five years—nay less—certain works may be obsolete. We have to take chances and we have to take risks. Those who know the situation in Europe and America better are taking the lead and we are following them. As the Hon'ble Mr. Chakravarti has pointed out, I do not think that posterity will have anything to complain of with regard to the rigour and severity towards the prodigal son. Of course we have all to look after posterity. We are trying to do it in the best way open to us. The constantly-flung 'fur coat' theory must not stand in the way of our doing our duty and the whole duty to ourselves and posterity."

The Hon'ble MR. PAYNE said :—

"Sir, I think that the Hon'ble Dr. Sarbadhikari has singulary failed to meet the Hon'ble Babu Mahendra Nath Ray's contention with regard to the period of the loan and the life of the work. He has strayed away from the terms of this actual amendment as, I think, many members have done in their speeches, and he has said that, if we cannot fix the exact life of the work, we can fix the approximate life. Of course you cannot fix an approximate period of a loan; you must fix an exact period, and what he says is—Supposing that the life of the work is 50 years, we might take a loan for 40 years.

[*Mr. Payne; Mr. Apcar; Dr. Deba Prasad Sarbadhikari; Sir F. W. Duke.*]

Having said that, will he kindly read the words of the amendment and see whether they are consistent with what he has said? The amendment reads as follows: 'When a loan is raised for a work the life of which exceeds 30 years but does not exceed 60 years, the period of repayment shall equal the life of the work.' What he is suggesting is something entirely different from the amendment which he is supporting.

It has been said, Sir, that this amendment is based upon English practice. That is entirely incorrect. It is not based on English practice of any kind, either the actual practice of the Local Government Board or the practice embodied in any Act. The most that has ever been embodied in any Act is that which has been embodied in the Public Health Act, which says that due regard shall be had to the life of the work. This amendment goes very much further than that and says that the period of the loan must be equal to the life of the work.

I have a book here—it is a recent book of 1912 which has been quoted by many members—in which this very question is dealt with. The author makes it perfectly clear that the life of the work is not the sole consideration upon which the period of the loan should be fixed. He says that the repayment of a loan must be spread over an extended period depending upon (*1*) the probable life of the asset upon which the money is expended, (*2*) the liability of the future generations to provide further works of public utility which may then be required, and (*3*) the judgment of those immediately responsible for the adequacy of the present outlay."

The Hon'ble Mr. Apcar said:—

"Is the Hon'ble Member referring to Mr. Turner's book?"

The Hon'ble Mr. Payne said:—

"Yes. It appears clearly from this that the life of the work is only one consideration and is not and cannot be the sole consideration. Again, further on, in summing up the whole question, Mr. Turner writes:—

> 'Consequently, the modern Parliamentary practice is right, namely, to require the repayment of the loan to be spread over a period *well within* the life of the asset created out of the loan.'

This is entirely different from any statement that the period of the loan must be equal to the life of the work. I will also point out one other objection to this amendment. The last part of clause (*a*) of this amendment reads:—

> 'When such loan is raised for a work, the life of which exceeds 60 years, the period of repayment shall in no case be less than 60 years.'

We have already carried an amendment fixing the *maximum* period at 60 years, and to accept the amendment now proposed fixing 60 years as the *minimum* in certain cases seems to me to be clearly absurd."

The Hon'ble Dr. Deba Prasad Sarbadhikari said:—

"Sir, may I say a few words by way of personal explanation? To quote the Hon'ble Mr. Payne's own words, he has singularly failed to understand what I wanted to convey to the Council. The words in the amendment 'equal to the life' are used in the sense of 'approximation.'"

The Hon'ble the Vice-President said:—

"That is a matter of debate and not of personal explanation."

The motion was then put and lost.

[*Raja Hrishikesh Laha ; Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur ; Mr. Apcar.*]

The following Motions were, by leave of the President, withdrawn :—

List of Amendments.—Motion No. 6.—The Hon'ble Raja Hrishikesh Laha to move that the word "or" be inserted at the end of sub-clause (*c*) of clause 128 (*1*), and that the following sub-clause be added, namely :—

"(*d*) to repay the balance of any short-term loan referred to in clause (*b*) of sub-section (*1a*)."

List of Amendments.—Motion No. 6A.—The Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur to move that, after the second proviso to clause 128 (*1*), the following be inserted, namely :—

"Provided further that—

(*i*) the period of repayment of any loan shall be equal to the life of the work for the construction of which the loan is raised, and

(*ii*) the said period shall be deemed to be the prescribed period of such loan under this Act."

List of Amendments.—Motion No. 7.—The Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur to move that, after the second proviso to clause 128 (*1*), the following be inserted, namely :—

"Provided further that the period for the repayment of every loan taken for the construction of works shall be equated to the average life of such works, and that the period so equated shall be deemed to be the prescribed period for the repayment of such loan."

List of Amendments.—Motion No. 8.—The Hon'ble Mr. Apcar to move that the following proviso be added to clause 128 (*1*), namely :—

"Provided further that the period for the repayment of every loan taken for the construction of works shall be equated to the average life of such works, and that the period so equated shall be deemed to be the period prescribed for the repayment of such loan."

The discussion of the following motions was postponed :—

List of Amendments.—Motion No. 8A.—The Hon'ble Mr. Apcar to move that the following proviso be added to clause 128 (*1*), namely :—

"Provided also that, in determining the amount of any loan sought to be raised under this Act, the Local Government, or the Government of India, as the case may be, shall have regard to the provisions of section 130 and to the present and future resources and requirements of the Corporation."

List of Amendments.—Motion No. 8B.—The Hon'ble Mr. Apcar to move that the following proviso be added to clause 128 (*1*), namely :—

"Provided also that, in determining the period when any loan so raised shall be repayable, the Government shall have regard to the probable duration and continuing utility of the works in respect of which the same is required."

List of Amendments.—Motion No. 8C.—The Hon'ble Mr. Apcar to move that the following proviso be added to clause 128 (*1*), namely :—

"Provided further that—

(*1*) the period fixed for the repayment of a loan shall in no case exceed 60 years, and

(*2*) the period so determined shall be deemed to be the prescribed period of a loan."

[*Mr. Apcar; Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur.*]

Motions postponed—*concluded.*

List of Amendments.—Motion No. 9.—If Motion No. 80 be not carried, the Hon'ble Mr. Apcar to move that the following proviso be added to clause 128 (*1*), namely :—

"Provided further that—

(*1*) the period fixed for the repayment of a loan shall not ordinarily exceed 47 years and shall in no case exceed 60 years, and

(*2*) the period so determined shall be deemed to be the prescribed period of a loan."

List of Amendments.—Motion No. 9A.—The Hon'ble Mr. Apcar to move that the following proviso be added to clause 128 (*1*), namely :—

"Provided further that—

(*1*) The period fixed for the repayment of a loan shall not ordinarily exceed 44 years and shall in no case exceed 60 years, and

(*2*) the period so determined shall be deemed to be the prescribed period of a loan."

The following Motions were, by leave of the President, withdrawn :—

List of Amendments.—Motion No. 9B.—The Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur to move that the following proviso be added to clause 128 (*1*), namely :—

"Provided that the period fixed for repayment of a loan shall in no case be less than 30 years or exceed 60 years."

List of Amendments.—Motion No. 10.—The Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur to move that the word "forty-seven" be substituted for the word "thirty" in line 5 of the second proviso to clause 128 (*1*).

List of Amendments.—Motion No. 11.—The Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur moved that the word "exclusively" in line 5 of clause 128 (*2*) (*ii*) be omitted.

He said :—"Sir, it is provided in clause 128 (*2*) (*ii*) that no portion of the borrowed money shall be applied to the payment of salaries of any municipal officers and servants other than those who are exclusively employed upon works for the construction of which the money is borrowed. This is an altogether new provision which does not exist in the present Municipal Act. It is an unnecessary provision, for it is in the power of Government under the law to allow or not to allow any portion of the salaries of officers not exclusively employed in loan works to be charged to loan funds. No difficulty has been experienced in the absence of any similar provisions. The insertion of this clause might lead to difficulty in future. As an illustration I will cite a concrete case. Suppose our Chief Engineer Mr. McCabe goes on leave, and Mr. Ball-Hill, the Executive Engineer in charge of Suburban and Fringe Area Drainage Works, officiates for him, in addition to his own duties, which has not unoften happened. His regular salary is paid from the loan fund, and the additional remuneration he gets for so officiating is met from the revenue funds. Now, if this clause in the Bill becomes law, he will not be deemed to be exclusively employed in loan works. Is then his entire salary to be paid from revenue?

[*Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur.*]

Then, again, I fail to understand, when, for a temporary period, an officer employed partly on loan works and partly on revenue works is to be paid his remuneration partly from the loan fund and partly from the revenue fund, why a different principle is to be followed in the case of permanent officers like the Chief Engineer or the Assistant Engineer, Waterworks, and other officers who have ordinarily to attend to and look after both revenue and loan works during the term of their service, and why the salaries of such officers should not be apportioned to the revenue and loan funds. The proportion may vary according to the amount of the revenue and the loan works. In the Corporation there are very few officers who are exclusively employed in loan works alone. Practically the entire Engineering establishment is not only employed in revenue works but also in loan works. The higher officers of the Engineering Department who are paid from the revenue fund are all employed in the preparation and execution of the schemes carried out of loan funds. Their salaries have been fixed in view of the loan works which, on an average, amounts to nearly 30 lakhs per annum. If separate establishment had been maintained for the preparation and execution of works carried out of the loan fund, surely a very large sum would have to be spent out of that fund. Officers on higher salaries have been appointed for revenue works alone, but especially in view of the extensive and important works to be carried out of the loan fund. Mr. McCabe, the Chief Engineer, gets a salary of Rs. 2,500, and the proceedings of the Corporation will show that the salary of the Chief Engineer was raised from Rs. 1,800 to Rs. 2,500 in order to obtain a superior man to prepare and supervise the execution of important schemes, the cost of which is met from the loan funds. More than half the time of Mr. McCabe is taken up in loan works. We all know how much time and labour not only our Chief Engineer but our Waterworks Engineer and the Superintendent of Waterworks had devoted to the overhead reservoir, the laying of steel mains, the installation of pumping machinery, etc. Similarly, extensive municipal buildings costing several lakhs, markets, gowkhanas and other works were all constructed under the supervision of our officers paid from revenue funds. I ask in justice and fairness that some portion of the remuneration of those officers should be paid out of loan funds.

Sir, we are fighting for the principle that the present generation should not be solely burdened with the charges which should in fairness be shared by posterity for the benefit they will reap. No work can be set up without a staff. But the works which will benefit posterity as well will be executed by the staff paid for by the present generation of ratepayers alone. Why should we rob Peter to pay Paul? Is it not therefore meet that both the present and the future generation should bear an equitable share of the cost? I hold in my hand a rough approximate expenditure from revenue and loan funds during the last three years. These figures work out on an average Rs. 32,79,000 spent out of the revenue fund and Rs. 27,21,000 spent out of loan funds on works for the improvement of the town. The Engineering establishment on these works costs about Rs. 2,70,000. I repeat—is it not reasonable to pray that certain percentage of this establishment should be debited to loan funds? The Port Commissioners debit a certain percentage of the cost of the Engineering establishment to the loan fund.

Sir, I do not urge for any fixed percentage, large or small. It would be for the Government to decide every year afer perusal of the statement of revenue and loan works. Sir, I am not only of this opinion. The Government auditors suggested that the oncost should be charged at a fixed percentage on the actual cost of capital works done. Mr. Gauntlett, who was then a member of the Corporation and a financial expert, was consulted and he suggested that the proportion of supervision of revenue works to that of capital works should be 3 to 1. The Government of Bengal, in their letter, dated the 19th February, 1910, ordered that no portion of the cost of general establishment other than that of the Engineering staff was to be charged to loan funds, while in the latter case a more exact basis of calculation should be adopted. It will thus be seen that it was the opinion of the Accountant-General, Bengal, the auditors

[*Mr. Stephenson; Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur.*]

and even of the Government of the day that at all events some portion of the cost of the Engineering establishment might be charged to capital. My motion therefore is quite in consonance with the opinions and directions I have quoted."

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON said :—

"Sir, in opposing this motion, I think, it is only necessary to trace the history of this question. The oncosting for the establishment of the Corporation works appears to date from the year 1893-94. In 1898-99, a lump sum of Rs. 12,000 was debited to loan funds on account of the general supervision charges of the Corporation. This gradually rose in 1899-1900 to Rs. 30,000 and this figure remained for five years. In 1904-05, somebody found that a percentage was possibly more advantageous, so they started to calculate a percentage on the cost of the general supervision and the maintenance of municipal offices and of the collection of rates. The total sum so charged to capital in 1908 was Rs. 1,22,321. At that point the Local Government intervened and we consulted the Auditing authorities, and we wrote to Bombay and Madras as to the practice in those places. Madras said that it debited no portion of the charges for supervision, etc., to capital account. Bombay said that they would look with grave suspicion on any suggestion for oncosting any portion of these charges to capital account, both as being extravagant and leaving the way open to grave abuses. Government then consulted the Comptroller-General who said that from the account point of view solely there was a case for oncosting a portion of the supervising Engineering charges. The Port Commissioners also debit capital works with an establishment charge of 2 per cent.

The Government wrote to the Corporation and said : 'In future you shall be allowed to charge to capital nothing but a portion of your supervising Engineering charges, and we would ask you to go carefully into the question and see what that portion properly debitable to capital, from an account point of view, is.' The Corporation then sent in their loans statement for 1910. They said that they had calculated that a reduction in their permanent establishment to the amount of Rs. 36,000 might be effected if they had no further loan works ; instead, however, of charging that Rs. 36,000 to capital they proceeded to reduce it to a percentage on the average amount of loans borrowed, with which it had no possible connection, and in the result on the basis of this percentage, they proposed in the next year to debit to capital altogether a sum of Rs. 1,09,000 as the share due from capital works for the cost of supervising Engineering charges for that year. The total supervising Engineering charges for that year were Rs. 1,06,000 or Rs. 3,000 less than the share they proposed to charge to capital, which was a *reductio ad absurdum*. That made it absolutely incumbent on Government to write to the Corporation and say that in future the Bombay practice, the Madras practice and the practice, as approved by the Comptroller-General, shall be followed, and no debit whatever shall be made to capital except for the actual establishment solely employed on capital works. I do not think the Council will follow the Hon'ble Member in his wish to reopen this question."

The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR said :—

"May I, with your permission, Sir, say a few words? It has been stated, so far as I have been able to follow the Hon'ble Member, that the Corporation has charged something like Rs. 1,09,000, a very extravagant sum, to capital, on account of the salaries of officers who perform the dual function of supervising both loan and revenue works. I am not proposing to lay down any definite principle or sum. It should be entirely in the hands of Government, as at present, to allow or not to allow any cost to be charged to capital.

The provision inserted in the Bill which I oppose is not in the present Act ; but has there been any difficulty in the exercise of the power of Government? Quite recently the Government had disallowed the payment of any portion of the salaries of municipal officers employed both in revenue and

loan works from loan funds and the Corporation had to submit to it. The revenue fund is paying the entire salaries of such officers.

If you lay down by a statutory enactment that no portion of the salary of any officer not '*exclusively*' employed on loan works will be permitted to be paid out of loan funds, difficulties will arise. Take for instance Mr. Ball-Hill's case. He is the Executive Engineer in charge of Suburban Drainage Works. His salary is paid out of loan funds. When he is appointed to officiate as Chief Engineer, in addition to his ordinary duties, as is often the case, his additional salary is paid out of revenue funds. If the proviso, that no portion of the salaries of officers not '*exclusively*' employed on loan works would be charged to capital is passed, then Mr. Ball-Hill will not be deemed as an officer '*exclusively*' employed on loan works for the period he would be acting as Chief Engineer and it may be contended that his whole salary should be paid out of the revenue fund.

Such difficulties might arise, and therefore I respectfully submit that the word 'exclusively' might be omitted from the Bill."

The motion was then put and lost.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 12.—The Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur moved that the following proviso be added at the end of clause 128 (*2*) (*ii*), namely :—

"Provided that, with the previous sanction of the Local Government, the Corporation may charge a percentage against any sum so borrowed on account of the employment of officers or servants who are not exclusively employed upon the works for the construction of which the money was borrowed."

He said :—"The same arguments apply, Sir, and I need not weary this House with any further observations."

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON said :—

"The same arguments apply in reply, and I need not trouble the Council."

The motion was then put and lost.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 12A.—The Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur moved that clause 128 (*2*) (*ii*) be omitted.

He said :—"Sir, with your permission, I shall move the next amendment. It is put at the fag-end of the meeting, when everyone is anxious to go away, and nobody is rising to support me. I move that clause 128 (*2*) (*ii*) be omitted. It will place us and the Government in exactly the same position as they are now. It will be entirely in the hands of Government to sanction the loan, subject to such terms and conditions as the Government please. I venture to suggest that this motion will not in the least affect the power of Government to disallow any item they choose from the loan statement and therefore I formally move it."

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON said :—

"With regard to that argument which is a new one, I beg to point out that the charge to the loan fund is incurred after the loan is taken. Government can only interfere before the loan is taken. When you have taken the loan, if you have the power to charge to capital, Government cannot stop you from so charging, and therefore it is necessary to insert this clause."

The motion was then put and lost.

Adjournment.

The Council was then adjourned to 11 A.M., on Wednesday, the 14th January, 1914 (the day following).

A. W. WATSON,
Secretary to the Bengal Legislative Council.

CALCUTTA ;
The 10th February, 1914.

B. S. Press—6-3-1914—3465J—500—E. J. H.

Abstract of the Proceedings of the Bengal Legislative Council assembled under the provisions of the Indian Councils Acts, 1861, 1892, and 1909, and the Government of India Act, 1912.

THE Council met in the Council Chamber in Government House on Wednesday, the 14th January, 1914, at 11 A.M.

Present :

His Excellency the Right Hon'ble THOMAS DAVID, BARON CARMICHAEL OF SKIRLING, G.C.I.E., K.C.M.G., *Governor of the Presidency of Fort William in Bengal, presiding.*

The Hon'ble SIR FREDERICK WILLIAM DUKE, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., *Vice-President.*

The Hon'ble MR. P. C. LYON, C.S.I.

The Hon'ble NAWAB SYED SHAMS-UL-HUDA.

The Hon'ble MR. C. J. STEVENSON-MOORE, C.V.O.

The Hon'ble MR. J. LANG.

The Hon'ble MR. J. G. CUMMING, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. B. K. FINNIMORE.

The Hon'ble MR. J. H. KERR, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. H. L. STEPHENSON, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. H. F. SAMMAN.

The Hon'ble MR. C. H. BOMPAS.

The Hon'ble MR. B. C. MITRA.

The Hon'ble MR. W. W. HORNELL.

The Hon'ble MR. C. F. PAYNE.

The Hon'ble MR. B. B. NEWBOULD.

The Hon'ble RAI PRIYA NATH MUKHARJI BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble MR. A. N. MOBERLY.

The Hon'ble COLONEL G. F. A. HARRIS, C.S.I., M.D., I.M.S.

The Hon'ble MR. H. J. HILARY.

The Hon'ble NAWAB SIR KHWAJA SALIMULLAH BAHADUR, G.C.I.E., K.C.S.I.

The Hon'ble MR. S. P. SINHA.

The Hon'ble DR. NILRATAN SARKAR.

The Hon'ble MR. R. GLEN.

The Hon'ble MR. E. A. MARTIN.

The Hon'ble MR. BYOMKES CHAKRAVARTI.

The Hon'ble MAHARAJA JAGADINDRA NATH RAY.

The Hon'ble RAJA SHOSHI KANTA ACHARYYA CHAUDHURI BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble DR. DEBA PRASAD SARBADHIKARI.

The Hon'ble MR. J. G. APCAR.

The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble MR. NORMAN McLEOD.

The Hon'ble MR. J. C. SHORROCK.

The Hon'ble MR. W. T. GRICE.

The Hon'ble MR. V. WOODS.

The Hon'ble MR. A. W. C. CHAPLIN.

The Hon'ble MR. GOLAM HOSSEIN CASSIM ARIFF.

The Hon'ble MAULVI MAZHARUL ANWAR CHAUDHURI.

The Hon'ble MAULVI A. K. FAZ-UL-HAQ.

The Hon'ble NAWAB SAIYID HOSSAM HAIDER CHAUDHURI, KHAN BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble MAHARAJA RANAJIT SINHA of Nashipur.

The Hon'ble RAI NALINAKSHA BASU BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble RAJA MAHENDRA RANJAN RAY CHAUDHURI.

The Hon'ble NAWAB, SAIYID NAWAB ALI CHAUDHURI, KHAN BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble BABU PRASANNA KUMAR RAY.

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANARJI.

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH RAY.

The Hon'ble BABU MAHENDRA NATH RAY.

The Hon'ble RAI HARI MOHAN CHANDRA BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble BABU UPENDRA LAL RAY.

CALCUTTA MUNICIPAL (LOANS) BILL, 1914.

(On the resumption of the debate, the discussion of Motions Nos. 8A to 9A, which had been postponed from yesterday's meeting, was proceeded with. His Excellency the President called upon the Hon'ble Mr. Apcar to move Motion No. 8A, on the List of Amendments.)

[*Mr. Apcar.*]

Clause 128.

List of Amendments.—Motion No. 8A.—The Hon'ble Mr. Apcar moved, that the following proviso be added to clause 128 (*1*), namely :—

> "Provided also that, in determining the amount of any loan sought to be raised under this Act, the Local Government or the Government of India, as the case may be, shall have regard to the provisions of section 130 and to the present and future resources and requirements of the Corporation."

He said :—

"The discussion of yesterday on the amendment of my hon'ble friend, Raja Hrishikesh Laha, has served a useful purpose. It has elicited a very clear exposition by my hon'ble and learned friend to my right (the Hon'ble Mr. Chakravarti) on the question of the period of loans being prescribed in accordance with the life of the asset. I have also given Hon'ble Members, who support the Government, an opportunity to express their views with regard to the apprehension they feel regarding the difficulties and dangers of that rule being pressed. My Lord, I am sorry I don't see my hon'ble and learned friend (Hon'ble Babu Mahendra Nath Ray) here who referred to the life being required to be accurately adjusted, but there is no intention at all in those questions in fixing the life with the precision he supposes. It is not wanted that the life should be fixed for, say, 25 years and so many months and so many days and so many hours. If the Bill itself is read or rather the amendment (3 A), which I moved and which was accepted (clause 3), it will be seen that 'the period within which a loan is to be repaid shall in no case exceed 60 years.' I lay particular stress on the word 'within'. That would apply to any period within that period. There are other considerations, no doubt, which will have influence and which I do not dispute on my part. Again, there is the view expressed, on which the Hon'ble the Chairman of the Corporation placed so much reliance both here and before a meeting of the Corporation, in Mr. Turner's book for the Repayment of Local or other Loans, and with which I quite agree. But there is no necessity to have what is there stated incorporated in the Act. Stress was laid on the circumstance that it was a new book. But I go back even ten years beyond the date of Mr. Turner's book and I also rely on the procedure that has been in force for, I dare say, perhaps 40 years. Mr. Turner does not ventilate new ideas at all. I have no doubt the Hon'ble Chairman of the Corporation has read the proceedings of the Select Committee on the Repayment of Loans in 1902, and there we find a highly-placed official of the Local Government Board, giving a statement on this very particular question. He says there—I am giving questions and answers—with regard to the considerations given by the Local Government Board in prescribing the period for loans :—

"Q. With regard to the repayment of loan, I take it you have no regard to the meritorious character of the work?

A. No.

Q. You have simply regard to its prospective permanency of benefit, if I may use that expression?

A. Yes.

Q. You would endeavour, as far as possible, to make it certain that the amount borrowed will be entirely paid off before the work is obsolete or before it is in danger of being superseded?

A. Yes.

Q.—And that is the guiding principle upon which you settle the period of the loan?

A.—Yes.

Q.—That is the guiding principle and the chief one?

A.—And the chief one."

[*Mr. Stephenson; Mr. Apcar; President.*]

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON said :—

"May I ask what amendment is being moved? The Hon'ble Member has not told the Council exactly what amendment he is moving."

The Hon'ble MR. APCAR said :—

"I have been called upon by your Lordship to move motion 8A on the List of Amendments and I am moving that amendment in the *agenda*."

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON said :—

"Only 8A ?".

The Hon'ble MR. APCAR said:—

"I think, my Lord, it would be convenient if I take motions 8A and 8B together."

The PRESIDENT said :—

"That can only be done with my leave."

The Hon'ble MR. APCAR said :—

"I ask for the leave."

The PRESIDENT said :—

"The Hon'ble Member must explain to me why he desires to take the two motions together."

The Hon'ble MR. APCAR said :—

"I informed the Secretary verbally this morning that I would seek Your Excellency's leave to do this. I may explain that motion 8A really is meant as an invitation to Government to have express statutory authority to exercise their discretion in respect of certain circumstances in considering the amount of a loan to be sanctioned. I do not think it is really absolutely necessary to embody motion 8A in the law, because I think that the consideration of the advisability and expediency of a loan is involved in the control proposed to be given in my second amendment, and if the Government do not think it necessary, I shall drop motion 8A. But, after hearing the expressions of opinion on the subject from certain Hon'ble Members of the Government, I thought I would give them full opportunity of obtaining express authority to have regard, among other matters, to the effect of impending expenditure of any exceptional and unexpected nature."

The PRESIDENT said :—

"In these circumstances, I am quite willing to allow you to move the two motions together."

The Hon'ble MR. APCAR said :—

"Thank you, my Lord. I will read the next amendment, 8B.

* It runs as follows :—

'That the following proviso be added to clause 128 (*1*), namely :—

'Provided also that, in determining the period when any loan so raised shall be repayable, the Government shall have regard to the probable duration and continuing utility of the works in respect of which the same is required.'"

He said :—

"The 'probable duration and continuing utility'. These are the words on which I lay considerable stress. It will be seen that the question which has been raised by the Hon'ble the Chairman of the Corporation of the necessity of a special provision being required, to the effect that in prescribing the period of a loan for a work the 'chief consideration' shall be the durability of the

* This was Motion 8B in the List of Amendments.

work, or that the durability of a work shall not be the sole consideration, really has no place. There is nothing more required than that found in the English Public Health Act of 1875. That statute was passed after the particular principle, as I may call it, prescribing the period of a loan according to the life of the asset had been established for some time previously, and since 1875 the Local Government Board have apparently been acting under the law in the manner that was stated before the Select Committee in the year 1902. That, again, we must take to be a settled practice. I do not know why it is that Hon'ble Members representing the Government seem to think that they have an entire monopoly in the desire to be fair. It certainly is my desire and anxiety that there should be no unfairness to either present ratepayers or their successors? It is my consistent policy to ask that the prescribed period of the loans should be according to the life of the asset, because, as the Hon'ble Mr. Chakravarti has explained, it is only fair and just that those who enjoy the benefit of a work should contribute towards it and those who do not enjoy it should not be required to pay for it.

Then, there have been remarks made with regard to the Incinerator which had stopped working after a short period. I have had no wish to bring that matter into the discussion in Council. I have heard that particular matter referred to before in interviews, but it has not been brought up in Council and the Hon'ble Member (Hon'ble Rai P. N. Mukharji Bahadur) rushes in to quote that as an illustration; but I would like to ask this to be considered: With whom lies the responsibility of sanctioning that item of work for construction out of loan funds? There was strong opposition to its adoption, but the proposal was carried by a majority, with the support of the Chairman, and it was sanctioned by Government. The responsibility really lies with the Government. It points to the necessity of better supervision by the Government in sanctioning loans, of considering the continuing durability of a work, of prescribing a period having regard to the life of the asset, and in not indiscriminately fixing a period determined in anticipation by statute, whatever may be the work undertaken. And, after all, so far as that particular item is concerned, the land still remains; the building and the apparatus may be out of use, but the land is not in any way damaged and is useful for any other purpose. Then, the Hon'ble Member insists upon bringing up the pumping-stations that have been discarded to give place to a new system of water-supply. Are we never to venture on any new system! Passing by the circumstance that some of the pumps referred to in the instance have served their full time, and others are being utilised in the new system; if we undertake a new work, we should have regard for its probable durability and continuing utility in prescribing the period for repayment. If there is something else found to be better, are we to be prevented from having an improved system introduced? Is not there a profit and benefit from an improved system? Does the Hon'ble Member mean that we are never to abandon a worse system for a better one? If we take the Hon'ble Member's own instance, where is the continuing utility of his own argument when we know that the Incinerator was abandoned in five years? How far would his own illustration help him when, under the plan he supports, the period to be prescribed would be 30 years? So that, while I do not in any way say that the only consideration is the life of the work, to be fixed exactly to the hour and the minute. But I do say that in prescribing the period it is essential that you should have regard to the probable duration and continuing utility of the work. I do not ask the Government of India or the Government of Bengal to go beyond what is the practice of the Expert Department in England and I have already explained what that is.

I am embarrassed by the battery of hour-glasses in front of me. I have got a heavy task before me and, under the special circumstances of having to explain a difficult and technical question with a time-limit, I feel embarrassed. I am fighting with my back to the wall, and to fight with one hand tied behind me is hard work and I ask your Lordship's consideration not to restrict me to the time-limit under the Rules. I am moving two motions, and if I were to move them separately I should be given more time.'

The PRESIDENT said :—

"I understand the Hon'ble Member's point and I sympathise with him. I do not wish to prevent him from having more time, but I beg him not to take more time than is necessary."

The Hon'ble MR. APCAR said :—

"If I am found to be speaking only for the purpose of saying something and not that I have something to say, I trust your Lordship will exercise your authority most ruthlessly. I find myself under special and peculiar circumstances, because the debate on this Bill is a difficult matter and I am much obliged to your Lordship for your consideration in having granted me the extra time.

Before I proceed further I should like to express my acknowledgments to the Hon'ble Members of your Lordship's Council through whose support, in the first instance, the adjournment of this matter was granted. It has enabled me to study the matter more closely. We in India, are not so familiar with the subject as those in England where they can obtain expert opinion which is of great value. I am very much interested, because I myself submitted the address that I ventured to make to the Trades Association on their invitation, to certain experts in England and they all supported my contentions, and one of them, a very distinguished expert, says, 'As regards your address delivered to the Calcutta Association on the 9th May, 1913, when your colleagues in the Council thoroughly understand the principles on which sinking funds are fixed for the United Kingdom, they will unanimously support you in your attitude to obtain for Calcutta similar powers.' It is a pious wish and I hope it may be realised. I can only convey what I think and believe, with the concurrence and support of eminently-qualified expert opinion in Great Britain to be the true principles, to the Hon'ble Members.

I am constrained to refer to the letter of the 11th September, 1912. The Hon'ble Members will recall that the particular sentence in it which caused us so much anxiety ran as follows: 'In this connection I am to observe that, as loans for a longer term than 30 years are uneconomical and involve the aggregate repayment of very much larger sums than shorter loans, the normal term of 30 years will not be extended except on the strongest grounds.' Personally, I have never entered into the calculations that this declaration has evoked with the ardour that they have excited in others. My chief contention, and one which I have consistently pressed, has been that the period to be prescribed should be adjusted to the life of works and that the repayment of loans should be according to the most approved methods recommended by experts and such as have been adopted in England. I cannot pass over the assertion or rather reassertion in Council of the view which was expressed in the letter of the 11th September, and I would ask for an answer to a very simple question: Which course is to the advantage of the debtor: to repay a sum due at the commencement of a year, or to have the enjoyment of it through the whole year and to repay it at the end of the year? As I understand the question in connection with the calculations, that seems to me to be the test with regard to the calculations made. What we, however, have got to look to is, according to my theories and my views, the life of the work. I have heard with some little anxiety an opinion expressed by my hon'ble friend to the right (Hon'ble Mr. Shorrock) as to the limit of time based on his own commercial ideas. I do not know exactly what my hon'ble friend means when he says that 30 years is sufficient for any work. So far as I am concerned, I consider myself now only in the position of a legislator, if I may assume such an exalted character. I am only concerned to see that there is a proper law enacted to be administered: as to the details of its administration I have nothing to do. That responsibility rests with those charged with that responsibility. Whether the loan is going to be 30 years or 50 years or 60 years is no concern of mine. If the life of the asset is 15 years, then let the period of repayment be prescribed for that term. All I want is that your Lordship's Council should insert in this

statute a very simple provision, and that regard be had to the probable duration (not the exact, precise duration) and the continuing utility? What I do protest against is that there should be any indication in anticipation as to what the period should be. I do submit that the onus with regard to this matter should not be thrown upon us. Every matter will come up for adjudication by those responsible. When they consider what period ought to be prescribed they will prescribe it. But it is a different thing to say before you approach the consideration of a question that the normal period shall be anything, or that, there shall be any variable or invariable practice. That is the only and sole ground upon which I take exception to what has been urged It is not as if I were speaking on my own authority. I am only a plagiarist before the Council and the contentions I urge are not ideas of my own. I am simply setting forth the recognised principles and practice, and it seems to me that the merits, precedent, practice and experience are all on the side of the particular four issues that I am so anxious should be adopted. I am glad, as I have said, that Mr. Turner is quoted as an authority, because I have his views in the first place on this particular question of a fixed period being prescribed for the repayment of a loan. I will not go through all he has stated—though I am tempted to—but let me put his words before the Council: He says: 'the grant of a period of 30 years for all loans, irrespective of the life of works is far from sound. There is an injustice to the present in repaying a loan for waterworks in 30 years for which 50 or 60 years might be reasonably allowed. There is an injustice to the future in allowing 30 years for the repayment of a loan for an asset which will certainly require renewal in 15 years.' He continues (I will not read the whole. I shall have present in my mind the consideration shown to me by the latitude your Lordship has shown me): 'In fixing the annual contributions at 1 or 2 per cent., the Indian Government appear to be acting upon a basis which has been abandoned in England for many years in favour of the more scientific method of basing the period during which the loan shall be repaid upon the productive life of the asset.' And, he further says, 'Coming now to the immediate problem before your Corporation, if the life of the asset is actually 30 or 47 years and the sinking fund accumulates in a normal manner, the loan will be repaid when the asset is worn out. If the life of the asset is actually 30 years and a period of 47 years is granted for the repayment of the loan, the fina 17 years of the repayment period will bear a burden in respect of an asset from which they cannot possibly derive any benefit and in addition have to contribute towards the cost of a new asset to replace the one worn out. If the life of the asset is actually 47 years and a repayment period of 30 years is granted for the repayment of the loan, the asset will be written off 17 years before it is worn out and the final period of 17 years will be in enjoyment of an asset towards which they will not have contributed any part of the cost. If I am correct in assuming that this is the present practice of the Indian Government, I can only say that it is absolutely opposed to the practice in England.' He goes further and says, 'you will have gathered from my previous remarks that the paramount factor is the life of the asset and that a uniform period should not be granted for the final repayment of the debentures unless it is the same as the life of the asset.' I give that writer's own language which he has communicated directly to me. He tells us that all those qualifications mentioned from time to time, as to the chief consideration and not the sole consideration in the life of the asset, are really implied in the words of the statute under which they grant their loans in Great Britain.

I will now refer to the letter of the Government and it is very important indeed—of course it must be—having regard to the conditions under which sanction is obtained for these loans by the Calcutta Corporation. In paragraph 2, page 2, it is distinctly enough stated, and I am glad to see it, that due regard will be had to the duration of a work, so that, the principle for which we so anxiously contend is admitted, that regard will be given to the life of the work. I accept absolutely the sincerity with

which this is put forward and the intention to carry it out, but where my difficulty comes is in the other portions of this particular document. In that same paragraph it says, 'as regards the question of period to be fixed for the currency of Corporation loans. I am to say that the Government of India do not desire that the currency of such loan shall in practice be invariably restricted to 30 years.' So that it may be construed that it is decided that ordinarily it must be 30 years. If the life of the asset is 15 years, I protest against the prescribed period being made 30 years I protest against a contribution at the rate of 2 per cent. when, if the life of a work is 15 years, it would be over 5 per cent. It is not that I am an advocate for long-period loans or short-period loans, but I am anxious that there should be a proper system. However excellent the intention, there seems to be much uncertainty of expression, and therefore I pray that the Hon'ble Member in charge will consider whether it is not wiser to accede to our humble request that we should only have what is stated to be the proper principle on which such matters are conducted, and on which the Local Government Board have proceeded for 40 years. This danger is emphasized when we go further. We are told 'the Government of India also desire it to be understood that the normal presumption will be that a period not exceeding 30 years is a sufficient term.' Why have any presumption? Why not give fair consideration without any onus on the Corporation? If you jump to a conclusion and say in anticipation that we are going to have 30 years prescribed, that, as Mr. Turner has shown, is unfair and I myself will more particularly show that, if your Lordship will permit me, it is not just that that should be done. I find a little sentence regarding the durability of a work, overweighted by pronouncements immediately preceding and following it, and I feel genuine anxiety that it will be overlooked. Therefore it is that I ask that there should be greater care exercised and in order to secure the intention expressed in the letter of the 1st of January, 1914, we should have a clear provision in the Bill, in the words of the English Public Health Act of 1875, and which I have incorporated in my motion 8B, whatever may happen to my motion 8A.

Then, my Lord, there is a difficulty raised by commercial members with regard to this question. They are rather inclined to judge of our municipal affairs according to commercial methods. Well, that is a point which I cannot deal with in the same admirable manner as has been done by Mr. Turner, and if any one has done me the honour to read the pamphlet which I have circulated, the difference which he draws between commercial and municipal enterprises will be seen in it.

I have set out Mr. Turner's letter *in extenso*. It will be found at pages 66 and 67 of my pamphlet. He says in paragraphs 2 and 3 of his letter :—

'In my letter of the 13th instant, I draw attention to the fact that it is not always correct for a local authority to set aside one or two per cent. as a Sinking Fund, unless the percentage bears a relation to the life of the asset. In my paper reported in the *Accountant* of the 27th April, 1912, I mention that it was a common practice for commercial undertakings to do this. It may appear not quite correct to condemn a local authority for doing what a private concern may do. May I briefly state what I mean?

'A local authority has not any capital except the power to levy a rate or assessment to provide works of public utility. A private concern may provide its capital in many ways, either by the issue of share or loan capital, and it may within very wide limits vary the nature of its capital. In such case the writing off of wasted assets is effected by charging the profit and loss account with the proper amount of depreciation, which is quite distinct from the repayment of the loan.'

My Lord, I dare not go further and explain more in detail what all this means, because it would occupy time. I am now really directing my words to Hon'ble Members who can understand for themselves without my entering into any further explanation.

[*Mr. Apcar.*]

Later, Mr. Turner says: 'The setting aside of a Sinking Fund by a local authority is the provision of communal capital to be represented, as far as possible, by actual assets, and this can only be carried out by making the term of the loan and the life of the asset co-terminous. This cannot be done by fixing an arbitrary period of whatever length. The question of the relation between the Sinking Fund and depreciation is a difficult one. I have made a lengthy investigation into the question and the general conclusion to which I have arrived is, that where the life of the asset bears a relation to the period of the loan, and there is not any residual value, the two funds are equivalent over the whole period, although not so during each year.

'On the other hand, where there is a residual value, the Sinking Fund is more than the equivalent of the depreciation fund, by the amount of the residual value, because the whole of the outlay will have been written off out of the revenues or rates of the authority. 'Permit me to say now,' Mr. Turner proceeds, 'in conclusion, I hope that what I have written you will be of use, and that you will be successful in inducing the Government to adopt your views. I think they are sound financial practice.'

I beg Hon'ble Members who have no experience in municipal administration not to hastily adopt commercial methods, because they are distinct. I have reason to say that there is a tendency in certain quarters to rely on the practice of private mercantile and other trading concerns to deal with the loans of municipal corporations, which, in distinction from the former, are not profit-earning institutions. The loans of the latter are met out of the rates which must be paid by thousands of citizens, who can only look to the utility of the work undertaken at their expense, as a return on the money which they are under statutory obligation to contribute. Municipal Corporations have no capital except their borrowing capacity, which depends on the rates and taxes.

I propose to examine (A) the system provided by law for the Calcutta Corporation of a fixed proportionate contribution to be made periodically; (B) that of equated loans; and (C), which I may describe as the present perfected form of contributions now adopted in England for repayment according to the life of each item of work included in the total aggregate amount of a single loan raised for the construction of several works.

For illustration, I will take a loan of Rs. 3,00,000, for three items of work, each of the value of Rs. 1,00,000 and of the life of (1) 15 years, (2) 30 years and (3) 60 years, respectively, and I will compare the relative merits of these three systems.

A. The system of a stated annual contribution, fixed by an Act, in anticipation, to apply to all loans to be raised under the authority of that statute when the contribution is 1 per cent. and the rate of growth at 3 per cent. compound interest as at present in Calcutta.

(1) For the item *with a life of 15 years:* the annual contribution on account of it must be continued for the full period of 47 years, that is to say, for a period of 32 years after the work had worn out: consequently, ratepayers, for 32 years, after the first 15 years, who are deriving no benefit from a work, are compelled to contribute to its cost;

(2) for the item *with a life of 30 years*, in the same way, for a period of 17 years after the work had ceased to exist, ratepayers are compelled to contribute towards its cost, without deriving any benefit from the work;

(3) for the item *with a life of 60 years*, ratepayers will have paid the whole cost in 47 years and thereafter, for a period of 13 years, its benefits would be enjoyed by those who would not be contributing at all towards its cost. *Under* (3), the hardship on those who have paid wholly for the cost, and the unfairness, in that the ratepayers of a later period are not called upon to contribute towards it, is obvious; but the disadvantages will be even better appreciated when it is understood that the

acquisition of land is an object for which hitherto the limit of 60 years arbitrarily has been fixed, and land, perhaps alone among all the undertakings of Municipal administration, can be regarded as of a 'permanent nature'.

B. *Equated Loans.*—Proceeding on the illustration I have adopted, of a loan of three lakhs for three items, each of the value of one lakh, and of the life of (1) 15 years, (2) 30 years and (3) 60 years, respectively, the average life is arrived at under recognized mathematical rules as follows :—

(1) 15 years × Rs. 1,00,000=15,00,000
(2) 30 ,, × ,, 1,00,000=30,00,000
(3) 60 ,, × ,, 1,00,000=60,00,000

1,05,00,000

$$\frac{1,05,00,000}{3,00,000}=35 \text{ years.}$$

So the average life of the three items is taken to be 35 years, and that period would be prescribed for the repayment of the loan of three lakhs under this system.

Item (1) is worn out in 15 years ; but the annual contribution on the aggregate amount of the loan must continue for 20 years beyond.

Item (2) is worn out in 30 years ; but the annual contribution must continue for 5 years after it has ceased to exist.

Item (3).—The whole cost will have been paid, in full, in 35 years, and for a period of 25 years the ratepayers coming after will enjoy the benefit without contributing towards its cost.

It therefore is not surprising that system 'B' was also abandoned after trial. Mr. Dicksee in his work on *Depreciation, Reserves and Reserve Funds* comments on this system as follows :—

'It is understood that this practice of sanctioning loans over a period dependent upon the average life of a number of dissimilar assets has now been abandoned by the Local Government Board'.

I know that the Corporation themselves in the first instance accepted the equated period ; but, as we proceeded to enquire further into it, we found that that method has been abandoned, and I am now going to place before your Lordship's Council that which I think I may well call a perfected system, wherein the cost of each work is paid for according to its life.

C. This form has now been accepted with approval in England, and I venture to say that, when it is once brought to the notice of the Government and the Council in the form I seek to present it to them, it will recommend itself, on its merits, as the most fair system of repayment. Under this scheme contribution on account of each item of work is required to be made only for so long as its durability lasts, and ceases with its period of utility. The scheme is worked in the following manner, the rate of growth of the contribution to the Sinking Fund being calculated with compound interest at 3 per cent. for—

(1) *with a life of 15 years*, an annual contribution of 5·37 per cent. would be paid into the Sinking Fund for 15 years. At the end of that period no further contribution would be wanted, because, in that time, the full cost of the work, one lakh of rupees, will be held in the Sinking Fund on account of the work in question ; for—

(2) *with a life of 30 years*, an annual contribution of 2·1 per cent. would be paid into the Sinking Fund for 30 years ; and for—

(3) *with a life of 60 years*, an annual contribution of ·6 would be paid into the Sinking Fund for 60 years, and at the end of the respective periods of 30 years and 60 years, in the same way as in the case of (1), no further

contribution would be wanted, because the Sinking Fund would, by that time, hold the full cost of the work on account of which the annual contributions had been paid. It will be seen that the ratepayers enjoying the benefit of each work will have paid for its cost, and no payment will be extorted on account of any work after its usefulness has ended, nor will any class of ratepayer get the use of any work, towards the cost of which he has not contributed.

It is in connection with the last-mentioned scheme of repayment that the importance of the distinction between the period of repayment of debentures and of loans is best realized. My Lord, the Select Committee on the Application of Sinking Funds in the Exercise of the Borrowing Powers of Municipal Corporations have distinctly stated that the life of the debenture may be the same period as the loan, or longer or shorter. It is not necessary to be co-terminous; but it must be clearly understood that the Sinking Fund cannot be confused with the life of a work, and the period of repayment of debentures does not depend on the life of a work, and debentures should not be confused with the life of a work. A debenture is a contract between the Corporation and the debenture-holders. With regard to the life of a work, that is altogether a distinct and separate principle, and they cannot and should not in any way be confused. It is well recognized, I repeat, in theory and practice, that debentures can be issued for the same period, or for a longer or shorter period than the prescribed period or periods for the discharge of the loan or loans. It will therefore be seen that no difference between the period for the repayment of a loan and the period for the repayment of debentures of that loan will affect the functions of the Sinking Fund.

As I have indicated, the loans required for the execution of the three items of work, although with different periods prescribed for repayment, can be borrowed under a single issue of debentures issued for any period fixed according to the condition of the money market. The Calcutta Corporation have been in advance of municipal corporations in Great Britain in having had the legal authority to invest the money from the Sinking Fund in their own debentures: and this is the form of investment which alone, under a resolution in that behalf, the Calcutta Corporation for some time past have adopted. This circumstance will facilitate, as will presently be seen, the adoption by them of the manner of repayment to which reference is now being made.

The investment of the accumulations by annual contributions and growth at 3 per cent. compound interest in the Sinking Fund on account of each loan, will be completed and the whole of each of the several loans will be held in the Sinking Fund, by the end of their respective periods; consequently, on the expiry of the period prescribed for a loan, no provision for it will be required out of the revenue of the Corporation. On this, which is the merit of the system, has been founded a question how, in such circumstances, can payment be continued of the interest as it accrues on the outstanding debentures? The answer is that the revenue fixed will no longer be charged with the payment of the interest but the investment of the money paid into the Sinking Fund on account of the debentures of the issue, in respect of the loan in question, will be yielding 4 per cent., which sum will be transferred by the Sinking Fund to the holders among the public of the outstanding debentures of the issue in question. This system perhaps will require more careful organization, but to a slight degree only, than under a proportionate contribution fixed by statute which entails a common period for repayment for all works undertaken, of whatever durability—a rough method which has now been rightly abandoned with the advance of the science of municipal finance.

Now, my Lord, a Municipal Corporation ordinarily undertakes works of a recurring character from loan funds. It would be a simple matter for the Government, in communication with the Corporation, to fix the durability of each such works, and classify them in a schedule. Whenever an application might then be made for a loan, the period for repayment for each

item could easily and expeditiously be fixed; and in the event of an exceptional work being contemplated which is not included in the Schedule there would be no practical difficulty in arriving without delay at the life of the work, and prescribing the period of repayment accordingly. So, my Lord, there is no difficulty to be experienced in fixing the life of each work. I have seen a regular schedule used in certain corporations in Great Britain in which certain works are set down as being of a certain length of time, and when application is made for a loan, you look down this schedule and you fix the period of repayment accordingly. If you think there is danger of any kind of a work becoming obsolete, you take that into account. It is the continuing utility of a work that is all that we have to look at, and I pray that that contention may be allowed.

My submission consistently has been that, whatever the life of a work, whether a short or a long life, the time for repayment must be fixed accordingly, within the limit of 60 years. I no more desire that 30 years should be fixed on account of a work of the durability of 15 years than that that period should be fixed on account of a work of the durability of 60 years. The illustration of the three items of work which I have presented is intended to show that the system, which now is approved, of contributions into the Sinking Fund for the discharge of loans, is adapted to meet varying degrees of durability of works, the aggregate cost of which is to be borrowed in one sum.

You borrow in one sum, but, so far as the cost of each is concerned, the ratepayers of 15 years pay for the cost of a work of 15 years' duration, and the ratepayers of 30 years pay for the cost of a work of 30 years, and so on. But it is not sufficient to employ a method of contribution which appears to be correct, nor will it be sufficient to fix a maximum period, however high, for the repayment of loans. It is essential to know, and to adhere to, the true principle on which the method of repayment is founded. We find that principle incorporated in the English Public Health Act of 1875, that it may stand as a direction and guide to the responsible authorities in considering the very important question at the time for the repayment of loans. I will give the terms of the clause in that behalf from the English Statute:—

> 'In determining the time when a loan shall be repayable, the Local Government Board shall have regard to the probable duration and continuing utility of the works for which the loan is required.'

If it has been considered advisable by Parliament to state the principle with precision in Statute law applicable to municipal corporations in Great Britain, where expert Departments of Government exercise control, it seems impossible to find valid reason for rejecting the principle, or its expression, in an Act to apply to our local Municipal Corporation. I have formulated amendments in this behalf, by way of addition to clause 128 of the Bill. I have adapted section 231 of the English Public Health Act in a form to meet any possible objection that may be taken. I think that, in the control given to the Government, the consideration of the advisability and expediency of a loan is implied. I, however, have prefixed a proviso to make it clear that, when a loan has been actually sanctioned, the principle of the English Statute shall apply, but that the intention is not to limit the discretion of Government with regard to the borrowing capacity of the Corporation, nor, with regard to the amount of the loan, the effect of impending expenditure of any exceptional and unexpected character, such as may be caused, as, for instance, by the silting up of the Bidyadhari river, or in considering the comparative necessities of the Corporation for borrowing immediately or in the near future or any similar question.

My Lord, I am anxious that this principle of the life of an asset should be accepted, because unless that is accepted, what is regarded as the perfected system of contribution cannot be adopted. Now with regard to what I have called a perfected system. Is there anything to be said against this? If it is that it would be too much trouble to have this system of fixing the period of each loan, I would ask—Why is it that the trouble that may be entailed

is to be regarded as so great? My Lord, I do not know whether this contention will be seriously urged by responsible members of your Lordship's Government. If your Lordship's Government are to be daunted by trouble in adopting proper and fair measures widely, is the idea to be applied and is it to be applied merely to the financial interests of this important Corporation? In regard to penal laws, can you, because you have not got at the moment some particular agency sufficient for coping with any kind of mischief for which legislation is required, hesitate to enlarge your agency? And so, here, I do not think, my Lord, that there should be any hesitation because of any idea of the trouble that may be caused by the adoption of a fair and just measure. But, in fact, there will be no such difficulty as is apprehended. The procedure is simply to fix the life of all works, and then you will proceed almost automatically. It is for the reasons I have submitted that I venture now to submit to your Lordship's Government my proposals, and I desire again to thank your Lordship for the consideration shown to me."

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON said :—

"It is with considerable surprise that I heard the Hon'ble Member characterise this amendment as being the most important in the whole programme, and it was with greater surprise that I heard him ask for an extension of time in order to move it. It certainly was my impression that the Council yesterday debated this question at considerable length, and finally decided that the continuing durability of the work was not the whole consideration to be taken into account."

The Hon'ble MR. APCAR said :—

"I have not said that it is."

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON, continuing, said :—

"The Hon'ble Member had an opportunity of speaking on that motion, but he did not avail himself of it."

The Hon'ble MR. APCAR said :—

"My Lord may I explain? I do not know that this is quite fair to me. I deliberately postponed speaking yesterday. The proposals that were made before were distinct in character. If your Lordship's Government were pleased to accept them, well and good. I need not then have moved my present amendments. But there were considerations and questions underlying my hon'ble friend's amendments which I, for my part, thought were open to criticism, and I therefore did not say anything. I have brought forward an amendment which is free from, and meets all, the objections that have been taken so far in relation to the proposal of my hon'ble friend, and to be twitted with not taking up your Lordship's time by supporting proposals I could not myself adopt was not expected."

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON, continuing, said :—

"The fact remains that the Council rejected an amendment which was to the effect that the durability of a work should be the sole consideration in fixing the period of a loan. The Hon'ble Member's speech consists very largely of setting up puppets for the pleasure of knocking them down. He has destroyed several puppets which we had not set up, and the remainder of the speech seems to me to consist of copious extracts, with marginal explanations, from his work on the Loans Bill. The Hon'ble Member has very kindly sent me a copy of that work, and I have studied it. I do not propose, however, to review it in Council, more especially as the Hon'ble Member, at the beginning of his speech, admitted that the continuing utility is not the sole consideration, and he went on to say that he only wishes that due regard should be had to the continuing utility. That is the position the Council took up yesterday and that is the position

which Government have taken up, and the Government of India have definitely stated that they will have due regard to the continuing utility of the work, and therefore I think that the Hon'ble Member's wishes are fully met. I should like on this point to say one thing about the opinions with which he has lashed Government from Municipal Corporations and Treasurers at home. I do not wish to go into them, but I will only say that, from the two which he has quoted, it would appear that a very great deal lies in what the terms of reference were. In one case we are told that one authority has written that the grant of a period of 30 years, irrespective of the life of a work, is unsound. Government do not propose 30 years irrespective of the life of a work. It was never the Government's intention to give a period of 30 years for a loan for a 15-year work. The second opinion was that, in fixing the payment to the sinking fund at 1 or 2 per cent., Government are following the practice which was abandoned years ago in England. The practice that is thus condemned is precisely the practice in force under the present Act. It is precisely the practice which we are abandoning, and which this Bill was brought in to abandon and to the abandonment of which, when I first introduced the Bill, the Corporation objected. I think, therefore, it is clear that the value of these opinions of people who undoubtedly are experts in their own line depends very much upon what the terms of the reference were, and until we have seen them I do not think we can say that these gentlemen at home are against the proposals that Government put forward. It would not be altogether easy to follow the Hon'ble Member's speech to find out exactly what the proposals which he puts before the Council are; but I think we may start from the common fact that both he and Government are agreed that due regard should be had to the continuing utility of the work. That being so, we can come to the amendments to which, if I may venture to say so, the Hon'ble Member has paid very scant attention in the course of the oration to which the House has been listening for the last hour. The amendments are two. The first is that—

> 'Provided also that, in determining the amount of any loan sought to be raised under this Act, the Local Government or the Government of India, as the case may be, shall have regard to the provisions of section 130 and to the present and future resources and requirements of the Corporation.'

and the second is—

> 'Provided also that, in determining the period when any loan so raised shall be repayable, the Government shall have regard to the probable duration and continuing utility of the works in respect of which the same is required.'

In the first place, I think it is clear that the genesis of these two amendments is that, at the back of the Hon'ble Member's mind, he realizes that there are other considerations which must come in in any case. The question that the Government of India has to consider is—Whether it shall grant a loan of such an amount to the Corporation. This cannot be decided only on consideration of the durability of a work. The Hon'ble Member, realising that, seeks to make an absolutely fictitious distinction between the amount of the loan and the period of the loan."

The Hon'ble MR. APCAR said :—

"So far as the first amendment is concerned, I will withdraw it if the Hon'ble Member does not want it."

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON, continuing, said :—

"For this distinction he has given no authority either in practice or in books. The Hon'ble Member says he is willing to withdraw the first part of the motion, and I would only point out that all it really amounts to is that the Government of India or the Local Government shall have regard to the

[*Mr. Stephenson; Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur; President.*]

provisions of this Act; and it is absolutely without precedent that you should put into a statute that Government shall have regard to the provisions of that particular statute. Of course they have got to have regard to it.

The only question therefore is whether we shall put it in the statute or not. The intention of the Government of India is perfectly explicit. The Hon'ble Member wants it to be put into the statute because it is in the Public Health Act at home; but I would point out that there is considerable difference between Acts at home and Acts out here. It is inconceivable that a public body at home would test the decision of the Local Government Board with regard to the period of loan by application to the Lower courts. I think the Council will realise that it is not inconceivable that a corporation in India should go to the High Court for an injunction on the Government of India ordering them to fix a given period for a loan because there is this provision in the Act. It is a well-known principle of legal drafting that the more you put into a Bill the more you exclude; if you say that one thing shall be done, twenty other things may not be done. If you put this into the Bill, that Government shall have due regard to the probable duration, you thereby increase the possibilities of raising the presumption that Government may not have regard to the other considerations which the Hon'ble Member's own authority says must be regarded. Therefore, my Lord, I can see no advantage in placing this actually in the statute. We have the letter of the Government of India, which gives the Hon'ble Member practically all he wants and I think there are very distinct disadvantages in putting this expression of intention into the Act. Therefore I oppose the amendment."

The Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur said :—

"My Lord, the Hon'ble Mr. Apcar has moved amendments Nos. 8A and 8B, but I believe that he has withdrawn his amendment No. 8A."

The President said :—

"The amendment cannot be withdrawn except with the permission of the House."

The Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur, continuing, said :—

"My Lord, as the Hon'ble Mr. Apcar has said nothing with regard to motion 8A, I suppose he proposes to withdraw that amendment. Therefore I will not touch upon that.

Then, with regard to motion 8B, my Lord, what we find is that the Hon'ble Mr. Apcar practically suggests in a modified form what was suggested in a previous amendment, that the basis of fixing the period of repayment of loan should be the durability and continued utility of the work. My Lord, as some objection has been raised to the words that the period of repayment of loan shall be equal to the life of the work, I believe that the amendment which has now been moved by the Hon'ble Mr. Apcar obviates the difficulty that has been raised by the interpretation put by the Hon'ble Babu Mahendra Nath Ray. My Lord, it is quite clear from the letter of the Government of Bengal, as well as that of the Government of India, that the intention of the Government of India is that, in fixing the period of repayment of the loan, the question of durability and continued utility will be taken into consideration. In that respect, I believe, the Government and the members of Council agree; but the difference is this, that the Hon'ble Member in charge does not desire to insert that expression, apprehending that it may give rise to difficulties in future. My Lord, I believe, the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill refers to the friendly suit which was instituted by the Corporation with regard to the application of the common sinking fund for repayment of the loan. It is well known to the Hon'ble Member and to many Members of this Council that it was a friendly suit instituted in the High Court

in order to elucidate the legal position of the Corporation. Therefore I do not think that it should be taken as if the Corporation was acting in a way hostile to Government."

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON said :—

"My Lord, I may explain that the matter of the friendly suit was not in my mind."

The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR said :—

"My Lord, if these words are inserted I do not think that it would complicate the situation in any way. If there is any doubt as to the meaning of these words, I think the Hon'ble Member will do well to suggest any wording or modification in the amendment which will obviate the difficulty which, he fears, may be raised in future, because the views of the Hon'ble Member in charge coincide with ours. I desire to bring to Your Excellency's notice that, as a matter of fact, it appears from the papers which I have been able to obtain relating to the London County Council Loans, the periods of loans are fixed by His Majesty's Treasury. These papers, which a member of the London County Council has been good enough to favour me with, show that the period for repayment of a loan raised by the County Council is subject to the approval of His Majesty's Treasury. Then, my Lord, follows seriatim, separately numbered, the fixing of years for which loans for particular works can be raised, and further it is also stated that no expenditure for renewal will be charged to capital account except in cases in which the cost of renewal cannot in the opinion of the Finance Committee be defrayed from the revenue of one year. It will thus be seen that the practice in England, as I have been able to learn from these papers, is that His Majesty's Treasury fixes a schedule showing that, within certain periods, loans for works of a certain nature are to be repaid. Therefore, my Lord, there would be no difficulty if this amendment is accepted, because the Government will doubtless take all the circumstances into consideration in fixing the period of loan. At the same time, I must say that clause 128 (2) (*i*) also gives the same power to Government in a vague and general way, because it is stated there :—

> 'provided that loans shall be raised subject to the approval of the Government as to the term and method of repayment.'

My Lord, I believe that wording is quite comprehensive; but all we want is this: that this principle, which has been agreed upon both by the Government and the Council, should be incorporated in the Bill. I have nothing further to say and hope that this amendment will be accepted by this House."

The Hon'ble DR. DEBA PRASAD SARBADHIKARI said :—

"My Lord, the amendment of the Hon'ble Mr. Apcar really occupies a very much lower plane than the one we discussed last night and to which the Hon'ble Mr. Stephenson referred. Many of the objections that applied to yesterday's amendment do not apply to this amendment, and there has been no attempt on the part of the Hon'ble Member in charge to show that they do so apply.

My Lord, the letter of the Government of India makes an important concession, and all that this amendment seeks to do is to have a clear statutory acknowledgment of that principle laid down. The question of durability is not to be the sole factor according to the letter of the Government, and this amendment does not seek to place it any higher than that, nor does it seek any very accurate mathematical deduction which was a puzzle to many Members yesterday. All that the amendment asks for is that the Government shall have due regard to the probable duration and the continued utility

[*Dr. Deba Prasad Sarbadhikari; Babu Surendra Nath Banerji.*]

of works. It therefore gets rid of the apprehension with regard to the vanishing utility of sanitary works and scientific apparatus and machinery. What is demanded is that these two factors shall be taken into consideration in deciding various matters referred to in the amendment. Reference was made last night and reference has been made this morning to the likelihood of High Court litigation. With regard to a matter like this, I do not know, my Lord, why Your Excellency's Council should be troubled with the possibility of litigation. If there is good cause for litigation, there will be, and is sure to be, litigation, whatever statutory safeguards we may provide in these Acts, according to the recent trend of things. There will be no effective litigation, if there be no good cause and I think we need not be nervous about that. There has been only one instance, I believe, in which there was a friendly suit by consent to which the Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur referred, but applicability of which has been disclaimed by the Hon'ble Member in charge. There has been no fruitful source of litigation with regard to an uncertain state of the law, and now that matters are to be further secured the chances of litigation will be much less. But if there is good cause for going to the High Court, people will never be deterred from litigation by hedging provisions like those. That nervous apprehension by itself ought not to preclude our making quite clear as to what is passing in our minds and which, following the Government of India concession, we desire definitely to legislate. We have got to bear in mind that the Government of India's letter says that in practice the duration shall not be invariably restricted to 30 years. What do these words convey? Ordinarily then the duration will or may be 30 years; but if it is to be otherwise, the onus of proof will be on the applicant, and we are anxious that this onus should not be thrown upon those who have the future dealing of the situation.

That is all that this amendment seeks to emphasise and bring out clearly."

The Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Banerji said :—

"My Lord, before the matter is put to the vote, I desire to associate myself with the amendment which has been placed before the Council by the Hon'ble Mr. Apcar. There seems to me to be sufficient agreement between the mover of the amendment and the Government, and the only question is whether what the Hon'ble Mr. Apcar proposes should be incorporated in the law or not. The Hon'ble Member in charge seems to have a sort of apprehension that, if that were done, it might give rise to trouble. The spectre of litigation flashes across his vision, and he supported himself partly in that view by what took place in the past history of the Corporation in its relations with the Government; but I understand that it was a friendly suit—and not only a friendly suit but it was a suit started as the result of a conference between the representatives of the Government and the representatives of the Corporation. The object of the suit was to elucidate the legal position of the Corporation. As my friend (Rai R. C. Pal Bahadur) has just pointed out, it is not likely that such a friendly suit will be started again except under similar conditions. It may be that the Corporation may not use the legal powers but any ratepayer might do so. My Lord, we are after all not a litigious people as some imagine us to be. The laches of the Corporation are as numerous and as countless as the sands on the seashore and yet how many suits have been instituted in the High Court or elsewhere? Take for instance the question of the water-supply. It is incumbent on the Corporation by Statute to give us continuous water-supply, but they have not been able to do so and yet there have been no suits, so far as I know. We have got our own business to attend to and cannot think of suing the Corporation for laches like these. This Council knows very well how many laches are committed in connection with the disposition of charitable endowments. Our mahants and matwalis dissipate public funds in a most scandalous way. There have been many complaints and protests, but how many suits have been instituted? Occasionally a patriotic person, concerned in the administration of these funds, perhaps moves the Court, but he does not always command

the financial resources necessary to prosecute the case and it collapses. Therefore, my Lord, the spectre of litigation is one which really may vanish from our vision, and inasmuch as there is a substantial agreement between Government and the non-official Members, so far as this matter is concerned, I think that statutory effect may be given to it by providing it in the Bill. I do hope that the Hon'ble Member in charge will see his way to accept the amendment moved by the Hon'ble Mr. Apcar."

The Hon'ble MR. LYON said :—

"My Lord, I do not think that I need add very much to what my hon'ble friend Mr. Stephenson has said already, but several other points have been dealt with by subsequent speakers. With reference to the Hon'ble Mr. Apcar's very long speech, I wish emphatically to endorse the remarks made on it by the Hon'ble Mr. Stephenson. It seems to me, with all possible respect for Mr. Apcar's erudition and his researches into these matters, that it is somewhat hard on this Council to have to discuss this question afresh to-day, seeing that the Hon'ble Mr. Apcar did not favour us with his views when it was discussed at considerable length yesterday, and yet the points which he has raised now are almost exactly those which were debated yesterday. The Hon'ble Member took extra time to deal with this case, because he said he was pressing two amendments. But when my hon'ble friend Mr. Stephenson referred to one of those amendments, Mr. Apcar at once said, with some contempt in his voice, that he was perfectly willing to withdraw that amendment. If this be so, I can only express my regret that the Hon'ble Member should have taken so long in moving it, or rather, should have taken extra time to move it and then, to all intents and purposes, not done so. This Council has important functions to perform, and I submit that its time should not be treated in this fashion. The Hon'ble Mr. Apcar waxed indignant over the imaginary refusal of the Government to adopt principles long accepted in England. The best answer to that is, 'Read the Government of India's letter'. He has in fact failed throughout his speech to deal with the real point, and we are obliged to the Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur for bringing us back to it, and to the Hon'ble Mr. Surendra Nath Banerji for dealing with it. That point really is—whether this principle, which has been accepted by the Government of India, is to be put on to the Statute-book or not. I ventured to say something yesterday in dealing with this matter and we came to a conclusion on that point. I gave then some reasons why it was undesirable that we should bring these words on to the Statute-book, and I do not wish to take up the time of the House in repeating my view that it is somewhat dangerous at the present moment to restrict and fetter the discretion of the Government of India in dealing with the terms of these loans. It is not the time when we should do anything to weaken in any way the credit of the Corporation, and I do believe that, in removing these restrictions and these safeguards, we shall to a certain extent injure the credit of the Corporation.'

The Hon'ble Dr. Deba Prasad Sarbadhikari said with emphasis that, if there were no good cause for litigation, there would never be any. I am doubtful whether any of the Hon'ble and learned Members of this Council who plead before the High Court will entirely endorse that view. I think that this Council would hardly be prepared to accept a statement that when there is no real cause for litigation no litigation ever takes place.

The Hon'ble Mr. Surendra Nath Banerji referred again to the friendly suit which took place between the Corporation and the Government in the High Court. I can only but emphasise Mr. Stephenson's personal explanation that no reference whatever has been made to that suit. Such a suit is entered upon with the concurrence of both parties in order to clear up some difficulty which has occurred in the interpretation of an Act. The sort of litigation to which he referred is entirely different and I do think that there is some danger of these matters being brought into the Civil Courts.

[*Mr. Lyon; Mr. Apcar.*]

There is one more point. The Hon'ble Dr. Deba Prasad Sarbadhikari suggested that this amendment does get rid of the 'vanishing' utility of the work, because it says that the term will be dependent upon the continued utility of the work. I would again emphasise the fact that the Government of India have to decide beforehand, that is, before the loan is granted, what is the probable duration and continuing utility of the work, and this vanishing utility renders it an extremely difficult matter to determine what is the probable duration. The consequence is that the Government of India have to take many matters into consideration; above all, they have always to bear in mind the rapid progress of sanitation and Calcutta's and India's advance towards the civilization of the West when they consider the terms of a loan. For these reasons I wish to support the Hon'ble Mr. Stephenson in opposing this amendment."

The Hon'ble Mr. Apcar said :—

"My Lord, I am astonished myself that the Hon'ble Member is surprised that I should have moved my amendment after the amendment of my hon'ble friend Raja Hrishikesh Laha had been rejected yesterday. I am sorry that he has not been able to discern the difference between this amendment and that of my hon'ble friend. All the objections that were taken with regard to the amendment of the Hon'ble Raja Hrishikesh Laha are met in mine. It seems to me that it is useless to attempt to move Government to consider what we desire, but it is perfectly plain and simple to see what the difference is. Because I did not speak yesterday on the amendment which I would not myself support throughout, is it to be thrown in my teeth that I did not take up the time of the Council? I could not have expressed the same view then as I have now expressed in connection with my amendment. What the Hon'ble Member is afraid of is of suits being brought. So far as India is concerned, I do not know of many suits. In the municipal corporations in England ratepayers have constantly and repeatedly instituted suits when they have had any real grievance against a municipal corporation. I am sorry to say that the public of Calcutta are not sufficiently alive to their own rights and that they remain perfectly quiescent, although hundreds of instances occur in which they could move against the Corporation. Why should it be supposed that the Corporation of Calcutta are an unreasonable body and will captiously take objections and and rush into litigation? The Hon'ble Member says that the Corporation will move; we have not shown any disposition to move in the past, but we are supposed to be going to move in the future. The attitude of the Hon'ble Member is, what he has said he has said. He can easily state reasons against me, but are they sufficient reasons? I have given the Hon'ble Members opposite an opportunity of reading in advance all the arguments that I have advanced and I have pointedly invited them to answer me, and I can claim that my arguments have not been aswered in any particular. I submit that, so far as this amendment is concerned, it leaves everything in the hands of the Government. I do not know what Government really desire. They have not shewn themselves afraid of litigation in the past. They are law-abiding no less than we are. They say that they will give us what we seek; then, why are they so much afraid to have a simple proviso, embodying what they say they intend to give to us, incorporated in the statute? If the Houses of Parliament in England have not hesitated to subject the Local Government Board to the provisions of a law, then why do the Government in India refuse to incorporate exactly the same terms with reference to such a humble body as the Corporation of Calcutta? My Lord, among other things, the letter of the Government has been relied on. I admit that there is an expression used about the durability of the work; but it is contradicted in effect by other portions of the letter. If it was not so, I would not have myself been so much concerned. When I framed my amendment, I had not seen this letter of Government, dated the 1st of January, 1914. My amendment was meant to meet the

intention as expressed in their letter of the 11th September, 1912. When I saw the second letter, I felt that I could not withdraw the amendment, because I think that whatever the distinction attempted to be drawn, there was no real difference between the two letters. All those objections that were taken to the first letter are all reproduced in the last letter. When you are going to consider the durability of the work, why should there be a presumption started that we are ordinarily to have a loan of 30 years? Can it mean anything but that ordinarily the period of repayment will be 30 years? What is meant by the normal presumption of 30 years prescribed for every loan? I do not object to the term of 30 years in the least bit, but what I protest against—and I have quoted there authorities because of that objection—is that, when you fix a proportionate contribution to the Sinking Fund, as has been the practice hitherto, how are you going to discriminate with regard to the several items with varying durability? Are these several lives to be contributed for according to the length prescribed for each, or how is it to be done? Is there to be a single loan to include all the items of varying periods of durability or how is it to be done? It seems that when the whole of these important questions are left undefined and uncertain, there is reason for asking for a definite provision to define what is uncertain and undefined."

The motions were then put to the vote together and lost.

(At this stage His Excellency left the chamber, the chair being taken by the Hon'ble Sir William Duke, Vice-President.)

The following motions were, by leave of the President, withdrawn :—

List of Amendments.—Motion No. 8C.—The Hon'ble Mr. Apcar to move that the following proviso be added to clause 128 (*1*), namely :—

"Provided further that—

(1) the period fixed for the repayment of a loan shall in no case exceed 60 years and

(2) the period so determined shall be deemed to be the prescribed period of a loan."

List of Amendments.—Motion No. 9.—The Hon'ble Mr. Apcar to move that the following proviso be added to clause 128 (*1*), namely :—

"Provided further that—

(1) the period fixed for the repayment of a loan shall not ordinarily exceed 47 years and shall in no case exceed 60 years, and

(2) the period so determined shall be deemed to be the prescribed period of a loan."

List of Amendments.—Motion No. 9A.—The Hon'ble Mr. Apcar moved that the following proviso be added to clause 128 (*1*), namely :—

"Provided further that—

(1) the period fixed for the repayment of a loan shall not ordinarily exceed 44 years and shall in no case exceed 60 years, and

(2) the period so determined shall be deemed to be the prescribed period of a loan."

[*Mr. Apcar; Mr. Stephenson; Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur; Mr. Lyon.*]

He said :—

"If we are not going to have our contributions according to the life of the work—which is my policy and which has always been my policy—and you are going to arbitrarily fix a period, then I say, let us have what they have in Madras. In Madras, the law is in terms of my amendment and I ask that the Calcutta Corporation may be given the same terms for the repayment of their loans."

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON said :—

"The Council has really made up its mind with regard to this and there is no need to discuss it further. We decided yesterday in amendment 3 that we would have a maximum period of 60 years. The whole includes the part and therefore the Council will not agree to putting in any intermediate period. Forty-four years means nothing."

The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR said :—

"I support the motion of my friend Mr. Apcar. I do not think it is in conflict with the previous amendment which has been accepted, that the maximum period may be for 60 years. What is asked for here is that the period fixed for the repaymant of loans shall not ordinarily exceed 44 years and in no case 60 years. It is stated in the letter from the Government of India that the intention of the Government of India is to treat the Corporation of Calcutta in this respect in precisely the same way as the other Presidency Corporations and this is also emphasized in the very kind and gracious reply of His Excellency the Viceroy to the address of the Corporation. This amendment is also in consonance with the procedure prevailing in Madras which is one of the Presidency Corporations in India, and I believe this amendment will also be in harmony with the views expressed in the Government of India letter which is quoted by the Hon'ble Mr. Stephenson in his communication to the Corporation. With these observations I support the amendment."

The Hon'ble MR. LYON said :—

"I am not quite sure whether the Hon'ble Rai Bahadur is under the impression that the amendment suggests that the ordinary term for repayment of a loan should be 44 years. That is not the effect of it. Its effect is still further to limit the term of the loan. There is absolutely nothing in the amendment which is inconsistent with the policy laid down by the Government of India, that the term should ordinarily be 30 years. To say that it shall not exceed 44 years is merely to interpose an intermediate limitation and to suggest that the term would only very rarely reach 60 years. That appears to me to be entirely contrary to the views expressed by the Hon'ble Member and other gentlemen in that part of the House yesterday."

The Hon'ble MR. APCAR said :—

"I should like to make some observations with regard to the speeches made on behalf of Government. As I understand the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill, he treats with absolute contempt the law in force in Madras. What I am now quoting is actually the law in Madras and we are told 'You need not consider it; it is a matter of no account.' 'We have nothing to do with it.' That is what Mr. Lyon said and I do not know really what to reply to it. The Government letter itself says that it shall not invariably be 30 years and here it is 44 years, and he makes light of it and says, 'It does not mean anything.'"

[*Mr. Lyon; Mr. Apcar; Mr. Stephenson; Vice-President; Maulvi A. K. Faz-ul-Haq.*]

The Hon'ble MR. LYON said :—

"It shall not ordinarily exceed 44 years."

The Hon'ble MR. APCAR said :—

"I suppose it means there is the presumption of 44 years. Here the normal presumption is to be 30 years and it is also said it is not invariably to be restricted to 30 years: that means that ordinarily it is to be 30 years. If it is not ordinarily going to exceed 44 years, let us have the presumption that it will be 44 years. I say this, if you give us really what I believe will be a true principle incorporated in the law as a guide or some acknowledgement of the principle, that will satisfy us that in future the life of the work will be regarded. I do not want an arbitrary time fixed at all. If you will not give us the principle we seek to be acknowledged, incorporated in the law, then I say, let us have an arbitrary period fixed as in Madras. In the first place, the law of Madras is put aside and you tell us that this letter of the Government is to be construed in the same light as the Madras law. All I can repeat is that people who do not want to agree with you can always find reasons."

The motion was then put and lost.

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON said :—

"Before we discuss amendments 13 and 14 which deal indirectly with the question of the Sinking Fund, I think it would be convenient if we took up clause 136 which deals with the setting up of the Sinking Fund, and passed on to amendments 26 to 31, returning to amendments 13 to 25 later."

The Hon'ble MR. APCAR said :—

"So far as I am concerned, I would like to have made my contention centre upon clause 135. My amendment No. 19 brings the different funds into one and the amendments that follow really depend on the issue of the common sinking fund."

The Hon'ble the VICE-PRESIDENT said :—

"I gather that the member in charge thinks that clause 136 is the main issue in regard to the question of a common Sinking Fund, and that it will be preferable now to take amendment No. 26."

The Hon'ble MR. APCAR said :—

"Very well."

The Hon'ble MAULVI A. K. FAZ-UL-HAQ said :—

"I find that the motion which I was going to put (No. 26) is identical with the one which Mr. Apcar will put. I think it would save time if Mr. Apcar started the discussion."

The Hon'ble MR. LYON said :—

"Is the amendment in the Hon'ble Mr. Haq's name withdrawn?"

The Hon'ble the VICE-PRESIDENT said :—

"It must be withdrawn if Mr. Apcar is to move an identical motion."

[*Mr. Apcar; Vice-President; Mr. Lyon; Maulvi A. K. Faz-ul-Haq.*]

The Hon'ble MR. APCAR said :—

"I was going to withdraw amendment 27, but I have not withdrawn it. Will that preclude the insertion of the proviso in motion 27A. The two motions are almost identical. The difference is that there is a proviso to 27A, and I would ask to be permitted to put that later. The contest is really with regard to the common sinking fund. My amendment 27A is the same as 27 with the addition of the proviso."

The Hon'ble the VICE-PRESIDENT said :—

"I am afraid the amendment, whether 27 or 27A, must be moved as a whole."

The Hon'ble MR. APCAR said :—

"Can I not move 27A separately in two parts?"

The Hon'ble the VICE-PRESIDENT said :—

"I am afraid I cannot allow that in this instance."

The Hon'ble MR. LYON said :—

"Would it not meet the Hon'ble Mr. Apcar and the Hon'ble Mr. Haq if 26 and 27 go out and 27A is moved in full?"

The Hon'ble MR. APCAR said :—

"That is, as I understand, what the President suggests. There are some reasons why I may be embarrassed because it would have been at my option to have withdrawn 27 or not. However, I have no more to say."

The following motions were then, by leave of the President, withdrawn :—

Clause 136.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 26.—The Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Faz-ul-Haq to move that the following be substituted for clause 136 (*1*), namely,—

"(*1*) The Corporation shall establish and maintain a sinking fund for the repayment of all loans raised by the issue of debentures, and shall pay into it, in respect of each of such loans, on the first day of every half-year (commencing from the half-year next after that in which the loan is raised), until the end of the prescribed period of such loan, such equated sum as would, with accumulations in the way of compound interest at the rate prescribed under sub-section (*2*), be sufficient, after payment of all expenses, to repay the loan at the end of its prescribed period."

List of Amendments—Motion No. 27.—The Hon'ble Mr. Apcar to move that, for clause 136 (*1*), the following be substituted, namely,—

"(*1*) The Corporation shall establish and maintain a sinking fund for the repayment of all loans raised by the issue of debentures, and shall pay into it, in respect of each of such loans, on the first day of every half-year (commencing from the half-year next after that in which the loan is raised), until the end of the prescribed period of such loan such equated sum as would, with accumulations in the way of compound interest at the rate prescribed under sub-section (*2*), be sufficient, after payment of all expenses, to repay the loan at the end of its prescribed period."

List of Amendments—Motion No. 27A.—The Hon'ble Mr. Apcar moved that, for clause 136 (*1*), the following be substituted, namely,—

"(*1*) The Corporation shall establish and maintain a sinking fund for the repayment of all loans raised by the issue of debentures, and shall pay into it, in respect of each of such loans, on the first day of every half-year (commencing from the half-year next after that in which the loan is raised), until the end of the prescribed period of such loan, such equated sum as would, with accumulations in the way of compound interest at the rate prescribed under sub-section (*2*), be sufficient, after payment of all expenses, to repay the loan at the end of its prescribed period :

Provided that, in respect of all outstanding loans raised by the issue of debentures before the commencement of the Calcutta Municipal (Loans) Act, 1914, notwithstanding anything contained in this sub-section, the Corporation shall pay into the sinking fund every half-year such sum as is mentioned in section 138, clause (*1*) (*b*)."

He said :—

"With regard to this question again, it will be necessary to see what the Government say in their letter of the 1st January, 1914. They say that 'for all practical purposes the sinking funds are in the same condition as they would be if the proposal of the Corporation were carried out.' If they are for all practical purposes the same, then why compel the Corporation to maintain separate sinking funds, which will lead to much confusion in our administration? When we are most anxious to have a common sinking fund, when it is admitted that for all practical purposes that which is proposed in the Bill is the same as a common sinking fund, and when a new provision actually was introduced in Select Committee to give, for investments a common sinking fund, we are to have now, under clause 138 of the Bill, a common sinking fund : under clause 138 (*a*), what humourously is called a common sinking fund for loans that have been repaid, and under clause 138 (*b*) the same sinking fund to be used for loans which are outstanding. I invite the Hon'ble Member in charge to tell me whether he considers that there will be embarrassment or confusion or shortage with regard to this common sinking fund for loans of over five crores of rupees, and a common sinking fund that will continue as a common sinking fund for 40 or 50 years? If there is to be a common sinking fund for loans that are outstanding and also for loans that have been repaid (which must be maintained as a common sinking fund for 40 or 50 years to come, when it cannot be suggested that it will result as a shortage), what reason is there to deny us a common sinking fund for our future loans? May I not say, does it not seem absurd to start separate sinking funds in the present day, to be maintained collaterally with a common sinking fund for loans for over five crores of rupees, that will endure for over 40 or 50 years?

Then there is another point. If the common sinking fund is a system that must cause shortage, it will be inherent in the system. In Bombay there is a common sinking fund, but there is no complaint of shortage, nor is there any talk of the common sinking being changed for a separate sinking fund. In England a common sinking fund is approved and is almost universally maintained. I understand that it is exceptional to find separate sinking funds. At first in Great Britain, Municipal Corporations started with separate sinking funds, they have advanced and a common sinking fund is almost universal. They have master minds there who consider these questions, and when they find that one system is not as good as another, they adopt the new system. They consult the best interests of administrations entrusted to their charge. Here we are going back after having started a common sinking fund in 1876, long before they started it in England. When the common sinking fund has been approved, after trial, in England, we are to be made to say 'we do not want a common sinking fund. We were in advance of you, and we were right, but by a most unfortunate mistake, we are going back to the separate sinking fund system, which has been condemned after good reason, after trial by you.'

[*Mr. Apcar.*]

If we have, for 38 years, maintained a common sinking fund, what is the reason that we are required to change? Surely we want the strongest possible reasons to justify such a change. Are the reasons relied on, that there has been a shortage, and if so, we must see, what has led to the shortage? It will not lie in the mouth of the hon'ble member in charge, if we had supreme confidence in the law that was given to us by the Government. We trusted that law, and that law was found to be defective, and owing to the defects in the law led to this unfortunate shortage. The Government have expressly recognised that the law is defective. It was necessary either to define the meaning of 'prescribed period' or to specify the prescribed period of a loan, and the omission of a single phrase in one section of the Act has caused all our difficulties. I have gone into this question very fully in my Note of Dissent to which I would refer hon'ble members. An extract relating to the question is set out, for the more ready reference of hon'ble members who may desire to be informed, in the pamphlet that I have circulated. It is supposed that when the debentures were issued for 30 years, that the loan was to be repaid in 30 years. Whereas we know on a contribution of 1 per cent. it will take 47 years. The time for the extinction of a loan depends, in some measure, on the rate of growth to be calculated at compound interest. The rate was not given to us by Government, until so late as 1907, so that we really could not know precisely the 'prescribed period' for our loans, that was 47 years, although we have been issuing loans from 1876, until the year 1907. Is it right for the Government to say that we are responsible for that shortage, particularly when they placed their experts to be Trustees of our sinking fund? The Trustees of the sinking fund who are *ex-officio*, under the law, the Financial Secretary to the Local Government and the Accountant-General did not suspect, through the long series of loans, that there was any likelihood of shortage recurring. It was left to the Vice-Chairman of the Corporation, Babu Nilambar Mukherji, who was the first to be put on the inquiry, to discover the shortage. It was then suddenly found that we had been proceeding on a wrong system all these years because we had not been able to pay—the law had prevented us paying—that which was necessary should be paid into the sinking fund when money was borrowed from it. Under these circumstances I do not think it lies with the Government to say that we are altogether responsible. We have not been free to act: the Government have given us a law which made it absolutely impossible to really comply with the requirements necessary to accumulate the amount of the loan. In that discussion, I remember, we had the then Financial Secretary, the Accountant-General *in esse* and the Accountant-General *in posse* and the whole of their collected wisdom amounted to this: they said that the sinking fund was the security for the debentures when the law expressly states that the security for the sinking fund were the rates, taxes and fees leviable under the Act. The provision is in the same section which makes these officers of Government Trustees of the sinking fund, and on the debentures scrips themselves it is stated what the security is. In this connection I wish to draw attention to the statement made before the Select Committee of the House of Commons in 1909, on the application of sinking funds in exercise of borrowing powers, by Mr. Clare, whom, I have been informed, the hon'ble member in charge has met. Mr. Clare, as I have stated elsewhere, is the distinguished City Treasurer of Birmingham, and represented the Association of Municipal Commissioners before the Select Committee. His statement I submit is important as showing the position of the lender and the Corporation. Mr. Clare's view was confirmed by all the other witnesses examined by the Select Committee who have had a practical experience of municipal administration. He said:—

"The security on which almost every lender of money to the Corporation relies—I speak from personal experience in negotiating many thousands of loans, as well from a knowledge of the opinions of some of the leading Stock brokers of Birmingham—is the financial standing of the particular Corporation to which he lends money, or whose Stock he takes up, and it is my firm belief that he does not concern himself in the slightest degree as to the technicalities of loan funds or sinking funds or as to the book-keeping in connection therewith."

[*Mr. Apcar.*]

Even though we have continued to maintain a common sinking fund for nearly 40 years, and the *onus* should be on those who seek to change the system, we are asked by those who are unfamiliar with municipal administration to justify a common sinking fund. The separate sinking fund was used at first after the passing of the English Public Health Act of 1875, but it was early found to be faulty and we have the best proof of all, that the common sinking fund is the better system, by the almost universal adoption of the common sinking fund by municipal administration in Great Britain. I will quote from Mr. Fleming's work on "Sinking Fund and Loan Repayment" in the second edition published in 1897: "To keep a separate sinking fund account in respect of every loan is impracticable, and the necessity for an alteration of the law requiring a separate sinking fund for every loan may be seen from an example. Say, a local authority borrows fifty sums of £100 each, the whole to be redeemed within 30 years by means of sinking funds. The rate of interest paid on the loans is £4 per cent., and the sinking funds are based on a £3 per cent. rate, and are invested in consols. At the end of the fifth year, the amount in each sinking fund should be £11 3*s.* 2*d.*, or £557 19*s.* 5*d.* in the aggregate. The local authority cannot, as before stated, legally apply a sinking fund in repayment of any other loan than that in respect of which it is set aside, and if, with a view to effect a saving in the amount of interest paid to the lenders, they desire to apply £500, part of the aggregate sinking funds, towards the repayment of loans, they must pay off, say, £10 in respect of each loan, if they can so arrange with the lenders. But, instead of repaying fifty sums of £100 each, and reborrowing the like number of £90 each, it would be much more convenient to repay five of the £100 loans.

"It is found in practice that the Local Government Board do not insist on separate sinking funds being formed and applied in respect of each sum borrowed, however small, of an aggregate amount authorized, but so far as practicable, they treat the aggregate amount authorized or borrowed as the loan in respect of which the sinking fund has to be set apart."

Later he says:—"Much inconvenience is experienced by local authorities keeping a number of separate sinking funds, in the application of such funds towards the repayment of loans It frequently happens that the aggregate amount in the several sinking funds is sufficient to redeem a loan falling due, or which it is desired to repay, but as only one of the sinking funds is usually applicable to the repayment of that particular loan, the local authority are unable to apply any other sinking fund."

And then it goes on "that the whole system of separate sinking funds had been abolished."

The Stock Regulations of 1891, made under the Public Health Amendment Act of 1890, and the County Council Stock Regulations of 1891, made under the Local Government Act of 1888, both framed by the Local Government Board, contemplate a common sinking fund

Let us now see what is the actual practice in such important City Corporations as Birmingham, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Manchester and Glasgow.

Mr. Clare (City Treasurer of Birmingham) writes to me under the date 5th August, 1913:—

> "I am quite in agreement with you in your opinion that it is not necessary to keep a sinking fund for each loan, separate and distinct from each other. This is important as a matter of book-keeping, but it is quite unnecessary from the point of view of management of the funds.
>
> "You may take it that the Birmingham practice in forming a common sinking fund for mortgages is typical of most existing schemes in this country, and I do not regard it as necessary to quote other cases which only differ in purely local and minor details."

Mr. E. Darnell, City Treasurer of Newcastle-on-Tyne, writes (his letter dated 9th October, 1913):—

> "The same class of Stock or Debenture should have a common sinking fund for its operations."

[*Mr. Apcar.*]

Mr. John Williams, City Treasurer of Manchester, writes (his letter dated 14th October, 1913) :—

> "By the introduction of a common sinking fund, the obligation to make separate investments of small sums set aside each year to a number of different sinking funds is done away with, and a Corporation is enabled, to its great advantage, to apply to the extinction of any loan any money which the Corporation may have in hand for the repayment of debt. A great simplification in the matter of repayment of loans is thus effected, as the Corporation can freely apply to the discharge of *any* portion of the debt the sums standing to the credit of the sinking fund. It must be clearly understood that when a common sinking fund is set up, it is still necessary to calculate separate contributions to such fund in respect of the amount raised under each exercised borrowing power."

That is exactly what we are doing today, and there is not a shadow of doubt as to the propriety of the manner in which our sinking funds are now accounted. We are now keeping this separate account, and everything is going smoothly and rightly simply by keeping a separate account of each loan, but holding all the funds in the aggregate together.

In addition to the practice of the Corporations I have mentioned I can quote, as I before have said the Bombay Corporation, as another which has a common sinking fund.

I again shall read from my pamphlet. I wrote it mainly to inform the Hon'ble Member of my arguments in advance. The Hon'ble Member has received a copy of my pamphlet from me. I have deliberately invited him to answer me and I have been waiting to hear what he has to say to meet my arguments. So far, I am afraid, I have been unable to elicit any answer from him. "The Calcutta Corporation have been required by law, since the year 1876, to maintain a common sinking fund, under successive Acts of the Bengal Council. And in this they have been in advance of municipal administration in Great Britain. There are advantages in this common system, and when this has been recognized and has grown more and more into favour and is generally adopted in other parts of the world, the Calcutta Corporation are required after 38 years' use of the system, so widely acknowledged to be the better system, to change and revert to a system that has been condemned and abandoned. Are we then to admit to the world we have been right by a mistake, and that when we have got a good system, even if by mistake, that we cannot recognize that it is a good system, and that we are so little capable of appreciation of what is right to be done, that even when we have been enjoying the right system for 38 years, we need must change it for a system that many years ago was found to be faulty and has been abandoned?"

I am again reading from the pamphlet which I have written, and I am waiting to hear what the hon'ble member has to say in reply. So far I am afraid I have not derived much advantage.

"I do not question that the Government, if they desire it, can impose this change or any other measure they may choose; but we are entitled to say that the change can be made only for some strong reason, and that we are entitled to be told what those reasons are. The reason that has been advanced is that the shortage that has occurred in our sinking funds is due to a common sinking fund. I unhesitatingly aver that it is impossible to uphold the assertion. The shortage has been due to (1) defects which are admitted by the Government to exist in the law, which prohibited contributions into the sinking fund after their debentures were repaid, and (2) the confusion that has been caused by the idea that the loans of the Calcutta Corporation, with an annual contribution of 1 per cent. indicating a life of about 47 years, were coterminous with the period for the repayment of our debentures which never exceeded, and on occasions were less than 30 years. I claim irrefutably to have shown that the shortage certainly cannot be attributed to a common sinking fund, in my Note of Dissent from the Report of the Select Committee."

"The proposal of the Government as expressed in their letter of September, 1912, is ordinarily to prescribe the period of loans at 30 years, and so, with an annual contribution of 2 per cent., make the life of loans coterminous with the period for the repayment of debentures, to produce in the sinking fund at the time for the repayment of the debentures, which also would be the end of the time prescribed for the repayment of the loan, the full amount wanted to discharge the loan; and this representation has been advanced in support of the proposal for separate sinking funds. I have shown the flaw in this contention in my address to the Trades Association inasmuch as the full amount is not obtained by the payment of 2 per cent. annual contribution: taking for example Rs. 1,00,000 as a loan, that the sum of Rs. 60,000 would be collected in 30 years from the contributions, leaving the balance of Rs. 40,000 to be made up by investment at compound interest and that immediately we come to the necessity of investment to make good the balance of Rs. 40,000, the theory of separate sinking funds, as I shall presently explain, is undermined."

Well, Sir, there is another later letter from Government, and in which I cannot see that there has been any practical difference from what was stated in their original letter.

Then, Sir, the Hon'ble Member in charge has quoted from a letter from the Chairman of the Corporation written, I think he said, in March last to the effect that the Corporation has sought a common sinking fund for investments only.

Well, Sir, that is very great news to me, very strange news, for so far as I know our contention has been consistent that we should have a common sinking fund for all purposes. We do not see what letters are written by the Chairman. I do not know, perhaps in those days the then Chairman did not quite appreciate the differences underlying this question, and in this respect he would not be different from persons in more exalted positions. The Hon'ble Member says that we only ask for a common sinking fund for investment. Well, I must respectfully repudiate any such idea. I have asked, and we have always asked, for a common sinking fund, and we are now asking for a common sinking fund, and that is really what is necessary for us to have and I can say that the late Chairman from whose letter the Hon'ble Member has quoted before he left, I think in August last, was entirely in favour of a common sinking fund such as I seek. Then, Sir, the effect of the amendment that was introduced in Select Committee is that on account of whatever loan contributions may have been received, they may be invested indiscriminately without regard to the particular sinking fund to which they may belong. This is a distinct advantage over the original proposal because it may be that only small sums are waiting for investment in separate sinking funds, which if they had to be invested severally, no opportunity, or, if any, only on disadvantageous terms, could be found: while if invested in the aggregate, wholly or partially, favourable investments might be available. We are told that separate sinking funds are desirable for the purposes of simplification of accounts. What has been the consequences of this separation of the investments? It has resulted in one amendment in this connection being replaced by another. It was after the Bill had been amended in Select Committee that the Hon'ble Member gave notice of an amendment of the clause which has been circulated (I am bound to say that the Hon'ble Member has thrown himself completely into a mire in that new proposal of his), but apparently he was warned, and warned in time. The amendment first proposed, which no doubt was devised with care and in consultation with the best advice available, showed utter want of comprehension of the principles and practice of the subject. It was discussed among us, and possibly the change that has now been made is due to the communication that may have been made to the hon'ble the Chairman of the Corporation, because I know one with whom I was discussing it was very much struck by the defects which were of the most absurd nature contained in the amendment first proposed, and he ran to the Chairman to point them out to the Hon'ble Member. I observe that I am not mistaken and the hon'ble the Chairman will not deny that I have stated what is a fact. So that when we talk about simplification of accounts, the point I take is that

the Hon'ble Member in charge does not quite appreciate all the difficulties that there are. He certainly accepted the draft amendment that was first presented, and another draft was proposed to be substituted for it, which I have no doubt would have been passed by this Hon'ble Council at the call of the Hon'ble Member, with all its defects stuck in it but for the warning I have referred to; not so much from the appreciation of the absurdities of his proposal but because the warning came from an acceptable quarter, and even now the proposal in its amended form is such that it is open to very serious criticism. All this confusion would be swept away, all these difficulties would disappear at once, if there is a common sinking fund, and then debentures at due date could be repaid from a common sinking fund and also investments, which do not require separate accounts, for different loans which are held in the aggregate could be made from one common sinking fund. Of course contributions on account of different funds would be kept in separate accounts, but investments would not require the elaborate and confusing machinery that the Hon'ble Member has attempted time after time to create.

I shall resume my reference to my statements in the pamphlet to which I have drawn the Hon'ble Member's particular attention.

"Our request for a common sinking fund in its entirety may perhaps be better understood if I explain that when the time for repayment of debentures arrives, the amount required to repay the holders of the outstanding debentures is obtained by the sale of the investments held in the sinking fund. Our contention is that it would be best that all the investments (especially when they have been purchased and are held indiscriminately) should be held for sale in common in respect of all loans, so that whichever of the investment it is most favourable to sell on the due date, might be sold for the repayment of the outstanding debentures of the issue in question. It would be essential to keep a *pro formâ* account, for each loan, according to the practice in England, which exercises a satisfactory check, as well against shortage as against over-payment, in order to ensure that proper charges are made as against the revenue account during the whole, and not more than the whole of the prescribed period, and to show that the proportionate contributions are paid into the sinking fund in respect of each loan.

"In whatever form the investments for the sinking fund may be maintained the separate system would be a disadvantage for the Calcutta Corporation and particularly so when their investments solely are in their own debentures.

"It is imperative to invest the money in the sinking fund forthwith. It would be, not merely a financial disadvantage, but impracticable to limit investments to the debentures of the particular loan connected with a sinking fund, or to expect that the sinking fund of a particular loan will hold only the debentures of that loan It would be no less impracticable to bar any issue of debentures from investment by the sinking funds. The investments must be made in such debentures as may be available in the market: investments must therefore be made in debentures of loans other than the particular loan for the sinking fund of which investments are required. Then, when the time for the repayment of the debentures of the particular loan will arrive, all the investments held in its separate sinking fund must be sold to provide the amount required. Without elaborating the argument, I will ask, what then is the effect of such sale? The answer briefly is, the debentures of other loans will serve to repay the debentures of the loan in question. I could proceed to demonstrate further that by whatever designation the sinking fund may be termed in the Bill in effect it will be a common sinking fund and it will be wiser and save confusion to openly recognize it to be a common sinking fund. Our Vice-Chariman's comment on the issue of the Select Committee's Report that it follows, when the sinking fund has been made a common fund for investment, it cannot be prevented from becoming also a common fund for repayment, can be seen, by any test of the practical administration of the fund, to be correct."

I cannot understand why when the Government are driven to the admission that for all practical purposes the sinking fund that they are forcing upon the Corporation will be a common sinking fund, we are

still not allowed to have a common sinking fund. The position will be anomalous and inconsistent in the extreme. The Corporation are authorised under the present law, and will continue to be authorised when this Bill is passed, to invest the money of the sinking fund in their own debentures. This will unavoidably result in the investments of sinking funds other than that of the loan to be repaid being utilised for its repayment, and yet by law we are to be barred by a fictitious law from doing what the law authorises us to do. All these anomalies and difficulties and confusion could be swept away by a stroke of the pen, by a simple acknowledgment in the law of what is expressly admitted by the Government in their letter of the 1st January, 1914. I do not know who is directing our present legislation. It is so very difficult to know if it is entirely in the hands of those who are in charge of the Bill here. When I have approached them I have been made to understand that it is not. I do know this, and I make no secret of it, because no secret was made of it by Sir William Meyer himself—when the Financial Member was down here, he told me that I could have whichever I liked, a common sinking fund or a separate sinking fund. I at once said, of course, "I take the common sinking fund." I would not have mentioned this if Sir William Meyer had not openly stated that we could have a common sinking fund to others, to the Vice-Chairman of the Corporation for instance, who repeated it to me. When Sir William Meyer mentioned to me what I have just stated, I replied "I will not further discuss this point with you, as we have much to get through, and our time is limited," but I wrote to him to the same effect to remind him of what had transpired. There was no room for any misapprehension in the matter. Then, Sir, when we presented an Address to His Excellency the Viceroy, he told us that we would have the same consideration in respect of our loans, precisely the same as had been allowed to the other Corporations. I immediately recognised that inasmuch as Bombay has a maximum limit of 60 years and also has a common sinking fund, we also should have one. I do not know whether it will be said that it was a mistake, but after all the Government cannot ask the Corporation to keep separate sinking funds when they at the same time say that what the Bill contemplates is practically and substantially a common sinking fund. There will be great disadvantage, and great confusion, if you keep separate sinking funds. But is not the word of a Viceroy, when it is admitted on the part of the Government there is no practical difference, sufficient to carry the day? Whatever mistake may be represented to exist, there can be no mistake of His Excellency's intention graciously to convey that consideration would be shown to our representations. Is that to be treated as meaning nothing? If the Corporation are not allowed even a common sinking fund, the practical result will be there will have been no consideration shown to the representations of the Corporation. And, Sir, with regard to the common sinking fund, when we have these difficulties, when by law we are entitled to invest our own sinking fund in our own debentures, is it not inconsistent to say that you are to keep all these separate sinking funds when in effect you cannot keep them separate, but what you do is to create a great deal of confusion and a great deal of complication in having them kept separate? What is to be the result now under the Bill? For every new loan you will have a separate sinking fund under section 136. There will be a common sinking fund for over five crores of rupees (section 138). The present sinking fund "A" is to be maintained. There will be another separate sinking fund under section 138 (*4*) and yet another sinking fund on the consolidation of any of the loans. Which is the more confusing and elaborate—to have all these distinct and separate sinking funds or to have one common sinking fund with a *pro formâ* account, to let us know exactly what we are doing with reference to contributions to our sinking fund? I do hope that there will not be further persistent opposition to our very reasonable representation for a common sinking fund."

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON said :—

"The Hon'ble Member has again spread his net so wide that I cannot follow him on all his points in the brief time at my disposal. I shall,

ıerefore, leave out any allusion to amendment 67 A and touch very briefly ı some of his points. He has spent some time in proving that the shortage as due to a defect in the law. I do not propose to follow him there. He so spent some time in discussing the position of the Trustees. The Trustees ·e now going to be abolished. I do not propose to discuss them, or to say ıything further except that I do not accept his statement of the case in ·gard to that particular point which he has raised.

Hon'ble Mr. Apcar: "You were not there, I was."

Hon'ble Mr. Stephenson, continuing, said: "The third point he made was ıat one of the Trustees was the Accountant-General, but that he did not find ıt the shortage. I think you will find it definitely stated, my Lord, in the orrespondence, that the Accountant-General and the Vice-Chairman found ıe shortage out independently at the same time; but the whole trend of his ·gument with regard to the Financial Secretary and the Accountant-General ·ing the Trustees, and this deficit still occurring, surely will force home) the Council what I said yesterday, that until we have a department of xperts, we should be very careful before we give these powers to the orporation. I do not propose, as I have said before, to review Mr. Apcar's ook. I have not the time, and this is not the place, but I would like to ıote one short extract which perhaps will show the lines on which I should ·view the book if I had time.

Mr. Apcar has quoted to the Council Mr. Clare, City Treasurer of irmingham. He said:—

'I am quite in agreement with you in your opinion that it is not ·cessary to keep a sinking fund for each loan, separate and distinct from ·ch other. This is important as a matter of book-keeping, but it is quite necessary from the point of view of management of the funds.

You may take it that the Birmingham practice in forming a common ıking fund for mortgages is typical of most existing schemes in this ıntry, and I do not regard it as necessary to quote other cases which only ffer in purely local and minor details.'

"I may point out that mortgages are different from debentures.

The Hon'ble Member does not emphasize this point. The other quota-ɔn he made was:—

> 'To keep a separate sinking fund account in respect of every loan is impracticable, and the necessity for an alteration of the law requiring a separate sinking fund for every loan may be seen from an example, say, a local authority borrow fifty sums of £100 each, the whole to be redeemed within 30 years by means of sinking funds. The rate of interest paid on the loans is £4 per cent., and the sinking funds are based on a £3 per cent. rate, and are invested in Consols. At the end of the fifth year, the amount in each sinking fund should be £11 3*s.* 2*d.*, or £557 19*s.* 5*d.* in the aggregate. The local authority cannot, as before stated, legally apply a sinking fund in repayment of any other loan than that in respect of which it is set aside, and if, with a view to effect a saving in the amount of interest paid to the lenders, they desire to apply £500, part of the aggregate sinking funds, towards the repayment of loans, they must pay off, say, £10 in respect of each loan, if they can so arrange with the lenders. But, instead of repaying fifty sums of £100 each, and reborrowing the like number of £90 each, it would be much more convenient to repay five of the £100 loans.
>
> 'It is found in practice that the Local Government Board do not insist on separate sinking funds being formed and applied in respect of each sum borrowed, however small, of an aggregate amount authorized, but so far as practicable, they treat the aggregate amount authorized or borrowed, as the loan in respect of which the sinking fund has to be set apart.'

Well, it is not a question of borrowing sums of £100 each. I take it that was based on the practice that is in vogue in Scotland, to a very large extent, of borrowing small sums on short mortgages of 3, 5 and 10 years. The Calcutta Corporation borrows its sums in bulk. There are two other points in the Hon'ble Member's speech. I am not able to enter into a controversy as to what Sir William Meyer may or may not have said in a private conversation with the Hon'ble Member.

The Hon'ble MR. APCAR: "I have correspondence relevant to that conversation. I can now show to the Hon'ble Member copies of letters that will support what I have said."

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON, continuing, said: I do not doubt the Hon'ble Member's word in the least. I only wish to point out that I am in a position to know the official view of the Government of India, and that, I think, is the official view of Sir William Meyer on the subject, and that is that the Corporation should not be allowed to borrow from the sinking fund. Whether the fund is common, or whether it is separate, is not a matter of any consequence to Sir Willian Meyer. I have no doubt he did say what the Hon'ble Mr. Apcar has stated, but he and the Government of India are against borrowing from the sinking fund. The other reference the Hon'ble Member gave was to His Excellency the Viceroy's speech, and he implied that His Excellency had given a promise to the Corporation practically that they should have a common sinking fund.

The Hon'ble MR. APCAR: "That is what was understood."

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON, continuing, said: Allow me to read His Excellency's speech:—

'There is one other purely municipal matter, which you have not referred to in your Address, about which I should like to say a few words, and that is in connection with the Calcutta Municipal Loans) Bill. I understand that there has been an impression that the currency of the Corporation loans will in practice be invariably restricted to a period of 30 years. Orders, however, are under issue which will remove this impression The Government of India have agreed to the insertion of a provision in the Bill, as in the case of the Bombay City Municipal Act, fixing a maximum term of 60 years for the currency of a loan, and it is hardly necessary for me to say that their intention is to treat the Corporation of Calcutta in respect of their loans in precisely the same way as other Presidency Corporations.'

The Hon'ble MR. APCAR said: "Yes, 'in precisely the same way' in respect of their loans. The sinking fund cannot be disconnected from our loans."

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON, continuing, said: I can find not a single word in that speech with regard to common sinking funds, and to say that the Bill does not carry out the promise of His Excellency is, I think, a very mischievous suggestion.

Hon'ble MR. APCAR: "Sir, I protest against any remark of mine being referred to as a mischievous suggestion."

The Hon'ble the VICE-PRESIDENT said: "I think it is not an unparliamentary expression."

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON, continuing, said: I did not mean it in any offensive manner, but I think it is pregnant with mischief to say that this Government is going behind the words of His Excellency the Viceroy.

Turning now to the actual amendment itself, the history of the amendment is, I think, instructive. Amendments 26 and 27 were sent in last year, but presumably Hon'ble Members recently discovered that if all outstanding loans were brought under a common sinking fund under the amendment, the prescribed period for such loan could only be taken at 30 years; therefore they would have to pay such equated sums as would pay off these loans by the end of 30 years from the dates they were taken. The essential distinction between the sinking funds of the old and new loans

[*Mr. Stephenson.*]

therefore forced itself on the notice of the hon'ble member, and while trying to bring all the funds into one fold he has been obliged to admit that Sinking Fund A as it is called, being based on different principles, must really be treated differently. This Sinking Fund A is the only one that will be in existence when the Act comes into force; it is at present a common sinking fund and it will remain a common sinking fund, but the Act will not allow it to be amalgamated with other sinking funds which are based on essentially different principles. This Sinking Fund A is for the repayment of 5 crores of debt; the payments into it will be over 5 lakhs a year. What then is the complaint of the hon'ble members, not that this is not being amalgamated with future sinking funds, or that the Corporation is being placed under any disadvantage whatsoever in the matter of managing the Sinking Fund or getting interest from it; but that under the Bill they are not allowed, when they have to repay a loan, to take more out of the Sinking Fund than they have paid in and accumulated on account of that particular loan. That is the cause of the lament. I have it on the authority of the Vice-Chairman that a common sinking fund without permission to borrow from it to repay a loan will not be acceptable to the Corporation, and this is the point at which they are at issue with Government. This is their grievance, and this is one of the instances in which they seek to graft an English practice on to our simple form of Sinking Fund. The precedent of Bombay is quoted, but though in form the power may exist in the Bombay Act, in practice Bombay never has borrowed and never can have any occasion so to borrow. They were in advance of us, and adopted from the first these sinking fund principles which we are now seeking to establish in the Bill; for all their loans they pay into the Sinking Fund such equated sum as will with accumulations amount to the total of the loan by the end of the period sanctioned for repayment. When the loan is due, therefore, there must be sufficient in the Sinking Fund to repay it out of the accumulations on the separate account of that loan, no question of borrowing from the sinking fund can ever possibly arise. It may also be noticed that the wording of section 109 (*e*) of the Bombay Act distinctly presupposes separate sinking funds as far as the repayment of debt is concerned, and that sub-clause (*g*) contemplates borrowing from the public, and not from the Sinking Fund, for the repayment of loans. The section is:

"The Corporation may at any time apply the whole or any part of a Sinking Fund set apart under this section in or towards the discharge of the monies for the repayment of which the fund has been established: provided that they pay into the fund each time that interest would have been received by the Corporation in respect of the Sinking Fund or the part of the Sinking Fund so applied, and accumulate, until the whole of the monies borrowed are discharged, a sum equivalent to the interest which would have been so received."

Nor can the case arise in future in Calcutta save in one instance. If a long-term loan is sanctioned with option to the Corporation to pay it off on an intermediate date, the Sinking Fund payments will be calculated on the whole term of the loan, and there will not of course be enough to repay the loan on the intermediate date; the Bill provides that the balance shall be borrowed in the open market; the Corporation would wish to borrow it from the sinking fund. In every other case as regards future loans there will be sufficient in the sinking fund of that particular loan to repay it and no borrowing will be necessary. The borrowing is really asked for by the Corporation to meet the case of outstanding loans. I have already pointed out that the Sinking Fund A, which covers all these outstanding loans, is a common sinking fund and will remain a common sinking fund, but the Corporation are forbidden to borrow from it. From this sinking fund the Corporation have between now and 1921 to pay back 179 lakhs of rupees; on the 31st March last there were 25 lakhs in the fund, by 1921 with fresh payments and accumulations there will be about 80—90 lakhs there, how will borrowing from the sinking fund benefit the Corporation? Under the Bill about half of each loan will be repaid from the sinking fund and the rest borrowed; if the Corporation had their way the first few loans would be completely repaid from the sinking fund and the remaining

loans would have to be reborrowed. Where is the advantage? Even if all the other sinking funds were raided, the Corporation would be practically no better off.

In point of fact the Corporation cannot point to any advantage from borrowing from the sinking fund. Let us recognize that it is borrowing—and the provision for the continued payment of interest to the sinking fund on the money so taken out shows clearly that it is borrowing—and if you recognize this, it becomes clear at once that there is no essential benefit. Borrowed money has to be repaid; there is no provision for its repayment out of revenue, and it must therefore be reborrowed; and this principle of repayment from a common sinking fund resolves itself into merely postponement of borrowing. The claim that 1 per cent. in interest was saved by this has been abandoned (and this perhaps is one of the justifications of the nine months' postponement of the Bill); as the loan has to be raised eventually there is no ultimate saving in stamp duty, and the only possible claim to advantage is that the payment of stamp duty may perhaps be shifted from those who ought to pay on to the shoulders of a future generation who can't help themselves.

But it will be asked why, if there are no advantages, is the system quoted with approval at home? I have already explained the circumstances which justify Corporations at home being given a very free hand with their sinking funds, but this form of repayment from a common sinking fund may be of great advantage to them. In the first place, local bodies at home, speaking generally (there are a few exceptions, of which Glasgow is one) as a class are not allowed to hold their own debentures; if their sinking funds are invested, it must be in outside securities. The London County Council pays 2½ millions into its Sinking Fund yearly; the amount paid by all local authorities is therefore very large, and up to comparatively recently the bulk of this had to be invested in Trustee securities. It very often followed that the Corporation could not get on its investments the same interest that it had to pay on its loans. In Calcutta the Sinking Fund is entirely invested in municipal debentures. A second point is this: a very large proportion of the stock at home, as an example the whole of the several millions of Birmingham stock, is redeemable at the option of the local authority on or after a fixed date; that is to say, that as long as the local authority pays into the Sinking Fund the necessary amount to redeem the loan at the time fixed by the Local Government Board, they need not redeem the stock at any time at any particular date; if on the date fixed they have not got the money in their Sinking Fund, they don't exercise the option and instead of reborrowing they run on the same securities. This power the Calcutta Corporation do not possess, and it makes a very great deal of difference in the matter of borrowing from the Sinking Fund. The Calcutta Sinking Fund is invested in municipal debentures; it is not cash lying idle and the illustration of separate tills I have heard given on several occasions is not an apt one. If you want to borrow from the Sinking Fund to repay a loan, you must sell out these debentures before you can get the cash. If the money market is adverse to the raising of a new loan, there will be equally a loss on the sale of the debentures. It is a moot point whether it is better to sell old debentures or raise new ones. I understand the Vice-Chairman is of opinion that it is cheaper to raise a new loan, and in that case this proposal to borrow from the Sinking Fund is distinctly disadvantageous. But in any case you cannot have it both ways; you cannot ask for cancellation of debentures, because it is cheaper to raise a new loan than to sell the debentures, and at the same time ask for a system of repayment from the common sinking fund, because it is cheaper to sell debentures than to raise a new loan.

I oppose this proposal for borrowing from the Sinking Fund for the repayment of loans. That is practically what it comes to. The Corporation themselves admit that, so far as anything else is concerned, the power which we give them over the separate sinking funds under the Bill is equal to what they would get under a common sinking fund, except in this matter, that they cannot borrow to repay a loan from them; and it is on this point that Government is opposed to a common sinking fund. I oppose this, because it offends against the principle which, as I explained yesterday, Government

considers vital; viz., that the sinking fund should be in the simplest possible form which will ensure that on the date on which the debt is to be paid, the money will be there. But I claim to have shewn that all other advantages of a common sinking fund are inherent in our proposals, and that Calcutta is not placed at any disadvantage in comparison with other Presidency towns. I ask the Council therefore to reject the amendment."

The HON'BLE RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR said :—

"Sir, since 1876 under successive Bengal Acts a Common Sinking Fund has been maintained by the Calcutta Corporation. Since then the Act has been amended no less than four times, but the provision for a Common Sinking Fund was never deemed unsatisfactory nor called for any amendment. Sir, now that it is proposed to make a change by substituting separate funds for a common fund, it is pertinent to enquire what are the reasons which have led to the proposal for the change. I do not think it is seriously urged that the Common Sinking Fund is responsible for the shortage that has occurred in the fund. It cannot be too often reiterated that the shortage occurred on account of the cessation of payment to the end of 47 years of the Sinking Fund contribution and interest on the money withdrawn from it for repayment of certain debentures. These debentures were issued, some for 15 years, some for 20 and some for 30 years. It is well known that a 1 per cent. yearly contribution from the revenue to the sinking fund, growing at 3 per cent., compound interest, would produce the full amount of the loan at the end of 47 years. After 15, 20 or 30 years, at the time of repayment of those debentures, the money for their repayment was withdrawn from the common fund, but on account of a defective wording in the Act the interest would not be paid and the Sinking Fund contribution was not continued on the amount withdrawn, but if the same had been paid for the remaining unexpired term of such loans there would not have been any deficiency in the common fund. If the said debentures had also been issued for full 47 years instead of 15, 20 and 30 years, the Sinking Fund contribution would have continued according to law, and the full amount of the loan would have accumulated in 47 years. There would have been no shortage and no occasion would therefore have arisen for the amendment of the Act. The period of debentures was, with the sanction of the Government, made shorter than the period of the loan for obvious advantage to the Corporation. Debentures in the past, with currency for 20 or 30 years, carried interest at 5 and 4½ per cent., and the Corporation was enabled to take advantage of the money market after 20 or 30 years to reduce the interest to 4 per cent., which they would not have succeeded in doing if the debentures had a currency of 47 years, the full period of the loan. How can it therefore be contended that the Common Sinking Fund was in fault? How does the necessity arise for abolishing the Common Sinking Fund? In the letter of the Government of Bengal issued over the signature of the hon'ble member in charge, it is stated that the Government of Bengal wrote to the Corporation, as soon as it was brought to its notice, that there was a shortage in the Sinking Fund, that necessary separate accounts of the sinking funds should be kept to ensure that each loan being paid from its own sinking fund. This might have been done either by raising the Sinking Fund or by lengthening the term of the loans; but there were objections to both these courses. All that is now necessary, with a view to prevent further shortage, is to ensure the continuance of payment to the Sinking Fund, of interest and yearly contribution for the amount already withdrawn or required to be withdrawn, for payment to the debenture-holders before the expiry of the period of the loans, and also to authorise the payment of the amount due on account of the shortage that has already occurred, owing to the defect in the Act. I respectfully submit, therefore, that the necessity for separate sinking funds does not arise. The common sinking fund is recognised not only in the Calcutta Municipal Act for the last 38 years, but in Bombay for several years the law regarding repayment of loans out of a common fund has been administered with advantage. The Select Committee recognized the utility of a common sinking fund for investment purposes only, and not for repayment, and the advantage of treating the sinking fund as common for selling the debentures held therein is obvious, as then the Corporation would

be free to sell out of the common fund whichever investment is advantageous to sell at due date of repayment of outstanding debentures when they fell due. Separate accounts will be kept to ensure the payment of sinking fund contributions in respect of each loan. Whenever money is available in the sinking fund it must be invested, and the investment may be in municipal debentures. The sinking fund of a particular loan might contain debentures of different loans, and when the time for the repayment of the debenture of one particular loan arrived, the debentures of other loans invested in the sinking fund of that loan would have to be sold to repay the debentures of the loan in question for which separate sinking funds are created. In effect, therefore, it will be a common sinking fund. In several English municipalities the sinking fund is recognised as common, both for purposes of investment and repayment. In such municipalities specific loans are treated as debts, for a whole and a common sinking fund is set up for all loans. In the report of the Select Committee appointed by the House of Commons the following reference was made to the St. Helen's Corporation Act, 1898 :—

"This Act (St. Helen's Corporation Act, 1898) contains a series of sections. . . . . to set up a common sinking fund and a common interest fund for all loans . . . . to enable the Corporation to use for new borrowing powers moneys paid to the common sinking fund. The general effect was to establish specific loans under specific powers. No loan would be earmarked to any particular fund, account or borrowing power, but would merely represent to the lender a security for a certain sum of money borrowed by the Corporation under all their borrowing powers taken together, and to the Corporation so much debt."

The Local Government Board in England do not insist upon the keeping and maintenance of a separate sinking fund for each loan, and the Stock Regulations of 1891 framed by the Local Government Board in England contemplate a common sinking fund. As to the advantages of a common sinking fund I beg to refer to the report of the Special Committee of the Corporation on the Calcutta Improvement Bill in which the Hon'ble Mr. Payne, the then Acting Chairman, stated as follows :—

"The experience of the Corporation has shown that separate accounts should be kept of the sinking fund of such a loan, but this should not prevent the Trust from utilizing the money in the whole fund for the repayment of any particular loan."

This is, Sir, the opinion of our Chairman and, I believe, that he still holds that opinion.

Now, Sir, the Report, from which I have quoted, states that there is not much objection to the recognition of the common sinking fund, but it is merely stated that it is much simpler, although the difficulty could be obviated by the insertion of a clause that a separate account would be kept ; but still the Government finds that this procedure of treating each loan separately for repayment is much simpler. I do not find any particular objection, except this general statement, that in the absence of any substantial advantages to the Corporation, the Government is unable to reconsider their decision. That shows that Government has not altogether made up its mind, but if the Corporation would make out some case for the continuance of the sinking fund, then perhaps Government would be prepared to allow the clause to stand in the present Bill.

Sir, as I have stated, I have not been able to understand what good grounds have been urged for abolishing the common sinking fund. I think the onus is on the hon'ble member in charge, as he wants to take away this provision from our Act. Then as regards the substantial advantages to the Corporation—although I have listened to the hon'ble member's very able speech—I must admit that the case can be argued from both sides. It has been argued very ably by the hon'ble member in charge from his point of view. I have been consulting our financial expert and discussing this from the opposite point of view, and what I find is this. Assuming there are five sinking funds for five separate loans (*a*), (*b*), (*c*), (*d*) and (*e*), and that in (*a*) we have got 20 lakhs accumulated, and in (*b*) 15 lakhs, and so on; and that the total accumulation in the five funds amounts to 50 lakhs, then when the time comes for repayment of loan (*a*) amounting to say 50 lakhs we cannot only withdraw the 20 lakhs accumulated in (*a*), but also

[*Vice-President; Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur; Mr. Norman McLeod.*]

the remaining 30 lakhs from the common fund (*b*) to (*e*), and, in order to avoid shortage in the common fund, the Corporation should continue to pay loan charges on the whole amount of the sinking fund applied to the repayment of the loan."

The HON'BLE the VICE-PRESIDENT said :—

"I must warn the hon'ble member that he is about to reach his time-limit, as I don't want to stop him summarily."

THE HON'BLE RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR, continuing, said :—

"Sir, I have a motion on this subject but on somewhat different lines.

What I find is this, that under the existing law a sum of 30 lakhs is to be borrowed from the Common Sinking Fund, and when the next loan (*b*) is to be repaid, say after 10 years, we have to borrow the excess over the actual accumulation in the common Sinking Fund at the time, but the advantage is this, that we shall not have to pay the stamp duty, which must be paid, if a new loan is raised for 30 lakhs from the market instead of borrowing from the Sinking Fund. We shall be saved payment of stamp duty for 10 years thereby, and we shall have that sum to our credit to carry out further additional work. That is a point, Sir, which goes in our favour. The advantage is, of course, not very considerable, but, still when we have it, it should not be taken away.

In view, however, of the warning given by you, Sir, I must now conclude."

The HON'BLE MR. NORMAN MCLEOD said :—

"Sir, I have listened with great care and with the greatest respect to the speech of the hon'ble Mover of this amendment. While he favoured us with many opinions gathered from outside sources as to the advantages of a common sinking fund, I failed to find a single argument in his speech as to what particular substantial advantage such a fund would be to the Calcutta Corporation. It might be my fault, but I may say in this I have many associates.

It is admitted that the practice in England permits of a common sinking fund and the borrowing therefrom.

But what is admissible in an English town may not be expedient in Calcutta.

Conditions here are entirely different and anything to do with public finance should be placed upon the simplest basis.

The Indian community in this city are only just beginning to realise the duties and responsibilities of municipal life based on Western ideals, and the European community, as a whole, is far too busy to take any active and direct interest in municipal affairs. We have no leisured class to give up a large portion of their time in criticism and in assistance. All we can say is that like some of the western cities of America, we are willing to pay to have things properly done.

The effects of allowing the Municipality greater discretion in the manipulation of its finances and sinking funds, theoretically legitimate though that manipulation may be, may produce results little expected by those who advocate such discretion.

It may injuriously affect the credit and borrowing power of the Municipality

The general public may refuse to lend money to the Corporation at 4 per cent., unless it be clearly understood that under a rigid system of contributions to sinking funds, the cash to redeem such loans, on due dates, becomes automatically available and is specially earmarked for that purpose.

I have it on the best authority that the Bank of Bengal are the largest individual supporters of municipal loans in Calcutta, more than 50 per cent. of the total amount tendered for the last two loans having come from them, and anything tending to alienate the sympathy of that Bank should be carefully avoided.

[*Mr. Chakravarti.*]

And I strongly advise my hon'ble friends to drop this idea of a common sinking fund in the meantime, if it carries with it, as I understand it does, the intention to borrow from it for other works, for, amongst other things, I think it will injure the borrowing power of the Corporation. Which therefore is it best to choose, the possible advantage of a common sinking fund, or the possibility of a decrease in the popularity of our Corporation securities. As a business man I should certainly say let the Common Sinking Fund go.

I must, therefore, oppose the amendment."

The HON'BLE MR. CHAKRAVARTI said :—

"Sir, I shall be very brief indeed, but i want to put this matter before this House from the point of view of a man who has no experience as a Municipal Commissioner and who does not pretend to be a financial expert. The point is this, that, so far as this question is concerned, it appears to me that this Bill does recognize a sinking fund. The whole difficulty is as regards the question whether that sinking fund may be utilized for purposes of paying loans. That is to say, if each of the loans is to be earmarked then the money in each of the particular till or particular account can only be utilized for the purpose of paying off that loan. Well, from the point of view of an ordinary man, for example, if I am indebted to the extent of Rs. 5,000, with regard to a particular person and I keep three accounts, and I have in account A Rs. 2,000, in account B Rs. 2,000 and in account C Rs. 2,000, it would strike an ordinary man that I am entitled to take the Rs. 5,000, say Rs. 2,000 from account A, Rs. 1,500 from account B and so on, and pay off the loan. But what I understand is this, that although the total accumulation in your sinking fund, may amount to the whole sum which is necessary for paying off the Rs. 5,000, you must go and borrow from the money-lender in the open market. Perhaps, you go to a private individual,—I am not suggesting this in regard to a Municipal Corporation,—say a Hathkhola money-lender, and pay 15, 20 or 30 per cent. interest. From the point of view of an ordinary man it seems to me that it is a mysterious thing.

It is suggested that in point of fact there is a difference with regard to the English practice and the Indian practice, because in England the Corporations borrow on mortgage, and here in India you do not borrow on mortgage, but you borrow on debentures. That is rather a startling statement to a lawyer because debenture after all is a mortgage in law. It is nothing else, but a mortgage, and where you have a sinking fund in connection with the English Corporations, the mortgage there must mean a mortgage by means of a debenture. Then, what is suggested is that it makes a difference because the money in your three tills which I have referred to may have been invested in Government securities in England, but here they have to be invested in Municipal debentures. What difference does it make? I have got the money and if I am allowed to pay the money out of the three tills I can pay off. I think that what is suggested is that you must not take a single rupee from the other tills for the purpose of paying off your loan, but you must go to the general public for the purpose of raising a loan. It may be sound finance: I do not pretend to be familiar with finance and I cannot appreciate it.

Then again: the motion which stands in the name of the hon'ble Mover with regard to the amendment (67A), which authorizes the investment of the Sinking Fund money as a common fund without any necessity to allocate to any particular fund, makes it absolutely impossible to resist the conclusion that, if there is no allocation with regard to the debentures to any particular loan, then when you float those debentures in the way of selling them for the purpose of getting liquid cash, then you are really borrowing from one fund to the other fund. However, this is only for the purpose of pointing out the confusion we are getting into by our learning and by references to Turner and Clare and all the names celebrated with regard to these matters. What we are doing is this. It is to be noticed that there is a provision in the Bill [clause 141E, now section 141F] under which the Accountant-General is authorized to look into the account of each

Sinking Fund and he is to count the cash, he is to count the securities, and if the funds are not equal to the amount which ought to be in that till then he can call upon the Municipality to put that money into that till. Well what is to happen? You hold these debentures as securities against all your loans, and when the Accountant-General comes and looks into the account and says with regard to this particular loan that you have not allocated any debentures to this, and therefore the securities are short, you get into confusion worse confounded. It is suggested, for example, with regard to Bombay that although they have the power they do not exercise it—that may be so. It is much better, it appears to me, instead of shewing particular zeal for innovation, to follow the English practice where they have dealt with this matter for ages. They have groped and groped, and by experience they have learnt, and, we cannot do better than to follow them. I am not impressed very much by what fell from my friend, the Hon'ble Mr. McLeod.

If in point of fact there are any conditions, and you point out that there are conditions in Calcutta which make it impossible or make it unfair that the English practice is to be followed, then by all means take into consideration the local conditions. Now it is suggested that there may possibly be a depreciation, that is, that the debentures will not be valued so much as they are valued now. In point of fact, the credit of the Calcutta Corporation in the money market stands fairly high, and no debenture-holder has suggested that he is in any way concerned about the common Sinking Fund, although it has existed for the last 30 years. Under these circumstances my submission to the house is, that this is a measure which ought to be accepted. I know in point of fact that it will not be accepted, and I might describe this more as a sinking ship than an amendment to the common sinking fund. Those are the observations I desired to make."

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI said :—

"I am sure we have all listened with very great interest to the speech of the Hon'ble Mr. McLeod on this subject. He does not often speak, and as a commercial man he is entitled to speak with authority on a matter like this ; but apart from the personal authority which he must carry in a controversy of this kind, his arguments must be tested like the arguments of other persons unconnected with commercial concerns. One of the very first observations which the Hon'ble Mr. McLeod made was "I don't find the smallest justification for a common sinking fund". I think the case ought to be stated just the other way. We have a common sinking fund at the present moment. You propose to make a departure. The burden of proof is upon you, not upon me. I am in favour of keeping the old state of things as they are. You propose to make a change. That change is in entire conflict with the traditions of Municipal Government in this country, and I may add in conflict with the traditions of Municipal Government elsewhere. I contend that the onus of proof is not upon me, but upon you. Have you discharged the responsibility which lies upon you? I say, no you have not. The Hon'ble Mr. McLeod observed, "Take care you don't make a leap in the dark. You may be jeopardising the credit of the Corporation." Let us therefore take our stand on the credit of the Corporation. We have had a common Sinking Fund since 1876 or perhaps earlier, and since that time the credit of the Corporation has grown by leaps and bounds ; it has steadily grown, from 6 per cent. the interest came down to 5 per cent., from 5 per cent. it came down to 4 per cent., and if the Government will allow the Corporation to borrow on their own account, it will still further be reduced. Therefore the fact stands out in clear relief that having a common Sinking Fund the credit of the Corporation instead of being depreciated has risen. Therefore there is not the smallest chance of their credit disappearing or even being jeopardised by continuing the system under which the credit has risen to that extent. Further, not only is there no chance of our jeopardising the credit of the Corporation, but I say you may perhaps jeopardise that credit by taking a leap in the dark and having a separate instead of a common sinking fund. The experiences of civilised mankind—I use the expression in a very broad sense—the experience of municipal institutions in all other parts of the world testify to the fact that the common sinking fund has been found to be useful.

profitable and serviceable, and that is the opinion, as my hon'ble friend behind reminds me of Mr. Payne, the head of the Calcutta Corporation. That being so, what is the justification for your making this departure? I know what the justification is. Some little hitch occurred some two or three years back in connection with a particular Municipal fund and then an explanation was forthcoming as to that hitch. The explanation was from the then Lieutenant-Governor, the late Sir Edward Baker, a trained financier. He did not suggest that you should dispense with the common sinking fund, and have a separate sinking fund. If that was the remedy that occurred to him, that trained financier would have made the suggestion. The suggestion was not that there should not be one common sinking fund, but that there should be separate accounts. That is what we pray for—to have a common sinking fund, with separate accounts. I think there is not the smallest justification for doing away with this common sinking fund. I think it is a risky experiment upon which you are embarking and you are embarking on it in the face of the unanimous testimony of Municipal Corporations all over the world and in the face of the deliberate and weighty opinion of the Corporation supported by its official head. I think you are committing a mistake, and it is my duty to record my most emphatic protest against a leap into the dark opposed to the traditions and experiences of Municipal Corporations in India and elsewhere. I hope, therefore, my hon'ble friend's amendment will be accepted."

The Hon'ble MR. BOMPAS said—

"May I as a rate-payer of Calcutta be allowed to say a few words with regard to what the Hon'ble Mr. Surendra Nath Banerji calls a "little hitch." This "little hitch" was a shortage in the sinking fund of several lakhs of rupees and it has been treated throughout the discussions which have taken place in regard to this Bill as a minor matter by the two non-official representatives of the Corporation. We are told that the Corporation is not responsible. There was a little defect in the law which unfortunately prevented them from arranging to pay their debts. If the provisions in the law had that effect, and we will assume they had, it was their duty to bring it to the notice of Government and to have it remedied. Unfortunately they allowed it to go on for years making no arrangements for the payment of the debts of their predecessors. The Hon'ble Mr. Apcar said that it was a trifling matter and that the sinking fund does not constitute the security for loans, that the general rate of Calcutta is security for loans. That is true in a sense, but it does not help the rate-payers regarded as individuals. If you ask me what is the result of this shortage to me and the present generation of rate-payers, I say that we for the next ten years will have to pay two-thirds of a lakh of rupees annually for improvements that were carried out about 1881, and of which, for all I know, the utility has been entirely exhausted. According to the pledges held out to the public that should have been paid for by our predecessors. This is the little hitch that the Hon'ble Mr. Surendra Nath Banerji referred to. If such a miscalculation had occurred in the affairs of a Corporation in one of the large towns in England, it would not be called by any words that would tend to represent it as an insignificant matter; but everybody concerned in the affair would have had to quit the service of the Corporation. I think every business man will agree with me in that statement. If the non-official members of the Corporation had come in sackcloth and ashes and admitted that their predecessors did make a mistake, and that they appreciate that it was a serious mistake, instead of defending it as they do, and undertaken that they would make arrangements to insure against any recurrence of that mistake, it might be possible to place some reliance on the spirit in which they deal with their finances; on the contrary it is minimised by the Hon'ble Mr. Apcar and his supporters and I as a rate-payer prefer that there should be some hard-and-fast system. The point is that the control of Government over a common sinking fund was insufficient to detect the shortage that was occurring, and I, as a rate-payer, would be perfectly pleased, if Government says we will have a simple system which will render it easier to control that fund. That seems to me to be a justification for the Government policy. It is true that in England you find common sinking funds advantageous: but it is not so simple a question as Mr. Chakravarti says: it is not merely taking idle money out of the till. Whatever you do

it is a question of borrowing money in one way or another. Of course it is possible that you might save a certain amount in stamp duties by borrowing from the sinking fund instead of from the public. That is the only advantage, so far as I know. And the counteradvantage—I am not speaking from the point of view of an investor, as Mr. Norman McLeod did but from the point of view of the rate-payers in Calcutta who will have to pay for what their predecessors should have paid for—is a greater simplicity which will render effective control by Government easy."

The Hon'ble MR. LYON said :—

"I would like to say a few words before Mr. Apcar replies. I wish, with reference to a phrase used by the Hon'ble Mr. Apcar, to make our position quite clear. The Hon'ble Mr. Apcar referred to the "persistent opposition" that we were offering to these proposals. I think we have some right to deprecate that phrase, considering to what a very large extent and with what a great deal of care we have met the Corporation and the Hon'ble Mr. Apcar on every point on which we found that certain principles we could not abandon were not involved. But when the Hon'ble Mr. Apcar referred to persistent opposition, he must realise, as this house has, I think, realised for some time, that the word "compromise" is not included in his vocabulary. If we grant him a concession on a point on which we think we can grant it without weakening the principles we are defending, the Hon'ble Mr. Apcar at once takes up his position on that new point in order to fight us the better on the points we have not conceded. I speak for the Government when I say that we have the greatest appreciation for the industry and care with which the Hon'ble Mr. Apcar has dealt with this question, and I think it is a matter of great congratulation that the Corporation of Calcutta possesses a member like the Hon'ble Mr. Apcar who is ready to devote his time and energies to dealing with important questions like this. We realise also the great authority of the books and Acts that he has quoted, and we fully understand how sound the advisers are whom he has consulted. But it is our misfortune that our standpoint with reference to this case is so entirely different from his that we are quite unable to trust the case he has put before these counsellors. I have very little doubt from reading the quotations that he has given in his pamphlet, that if we had the placing of our case on the present Bill before the same authorities that the Hon'ble Mr. Apcar has consulted, we should have obtained from those authorities an emphatic approval of the Bill that we are now putting before the Council. And one of the reasons for this is that in the case that the Hon'ble Mr. Apcar has placed before his advisers he has failed from his own showing to suggest that there should be any difference whatsoever between municipal legislation in this country and municipal legislation in England. In the course of his pamphlet he has pointed out several times that this perfected legislation to which he has invited our attention is of comparatively recent growth in England, that a few years back they were wallowing in the same marsh in which we are wallowing now, and that they had not then received the enlightenment that they now possess. Is it too much for me to suggest that in the progress that we have hitherto made in municipal law and municipal practice in India, we have not advanced beyond the state of England a few years back? And a remedy which may be good in England at the present moment may not be good for us. I made reference yesterday to the fact, and so did the Hon'ble Mr. Stephenson, that we have not got a body like the Local Government Board at home, and the Hon'ble Mr. Surendra Nath Banerji, with that quickness in debate for which he is conspicuous, said: "Why not create one?" My answer is that it is entirely impossible. It is not a question merely of placing three or four men on a Municipal Board to deal with those matters. These men cannot be given the experience of the transactions of large Corporations, with their own complicated legislation, which forms such an invaluable training for the Local Government Board in England. That Board has had many years' experience of large financial transactions connected with many Corporations, whereas we in India have perhaps only two bodies to compare with those Corporations. For anything in that way it is quite impossible that we should have either the means or the experience at present, and that is one of the reasons why we are bound at the present moment to be cautious in dealing with the question of a common sinking fund. The Hon'ble Mr. Surendra Nath Banerji has told us that the whole of the experience of civilisation supports him in

the claim for a common sinking fund for Calcutta, but he omitted to state that the reason why a common sinking fund was required in other countries is that it is required for the purpose of borrowing from it; and we have already heard from the Hon'ble Mr. Stephenson, and it has not been controverted, that unless the Corporation are permitted to borrow from that sinking fund and to utilise it in the repayment of loans, they do not attach any importance to it. I regret, as the Hon'ble Mr. Stephenson regrets (and I associate myself with him in the words he used), that the Hon'ble Mr. Apcar should have tried to argue that the Government were detracting from the gracious message conveyed to the Corporation by His Excellency the Viceroy. I think that it is extremely unfortunate that the Hon'ble Mr. Apcar should have made such a charge or such a suggestion. It is well known to the Council that the policy which has been adopted by the Government of India in the matter which was referred to by His Excellency the Viceroy is the policy adopted at our request and on our suggestion, and to turn and twist a phrase of His Excellency the Viceroy's into a suggestion that he promised something further than that which we are prepared to grant is, I think, a suggestion which should not have been made. The Hon'ble Mr. Chakravarti suggested, "as a plain man without special financial experience" that he would like to deal with these funds just as a private gentleman might deal with his own cash kept by him in separate private tills, but I would suggest that there is something different between tills in which a shop-keeper keeps his money and the trust funds which have been created for the satisfaction of the creditors from whom he has borrowed. Practically these sinking funds are trust funds which have been created to sustain the credit of the Corporation, and to ensure that the money which has been borrowed will be repaid at the proper time. I do not think that we should deal with the money in those funds in exactly the same way as we should deal with our private balance at the bank. He also suggested that the power to invest in their own debentures which we have given to the Corporation means just the same as the borrowing to which we object. In that, again, I hardly think we should agree with him, because by means of our separate sinking funds we insure that in each sinking fund must remain, whatever the securities may be, the proper amount which should have accumulated from time to time in that fund. I would remind the Council, finally, that in the action which we are now taking, we have the support of an exceptionally strong Select Committee, which, with the exception of the two members of the Corporation who objected to this part of the Select Committee's Report and wrote notes of dissent therefrom, approved the course which we propose to take. We have also—and I value it very greatly—the support of the commercial community of Calcutta, and I hold that the commercial community of Calcutta are in a better position than any other body of men whom we could consult to consider what is good for the credit of the Corporation of Calcutta. Our proposals are made in defence of the credit of the Corporation of Calcutta, and it is that credit which is being attacked in the proposal which is now made."

The Hon'ble MR. APCAR said :—

"Mr. President, the whole of this discussion lately has been pursued with regard to borrowing from the sinking fund, if it is going to be a common sinking fund. What is the meaning of borrowing from a common sinking fund? It is no more borrowing from that fund than borrowing from any separate sinking fund. The mercantile representative, on whom the Hon'ble Mr. Lyon relied so much, said that our borrowing capacity would be impaired. Does he know what our borrowing capacity is? I should like to know if he does know. Will he tell me what our borrowing capacity is, in what it consists?'

The Hon'ble MR. MCLEOD : No.

The Hon'ble MR. APCAR :

"No; he says he does not know. One of the advantages of a common sinking fund is to avoid borrowing to repay debentures at due date. If the Corporation are made to have a separate sinking fund, they will have to borrow when with a common sinking they need not borrow. The Hon'ble Mr. Norman McLeod appears to think that the borrowing capacity is increased by

borrowing. That is his policy. If that is his mercantile policy, I hope he may soon change it, because if he thinks that by borrowing you increase your credit, then may Providence save his companies and his firm. I cannot help thinking of what Sir Herbert Risley said with regard to his community, that those who are the least qualified to judge are most ready to criticise. So far as our borrowing capacity is concerned,—it is in the Bill: he has not read it: if the Honble Member will look at section 130, he will see that it is 10 per cent. on the rateable value. That is what the borrowing capacity is based on. We say that is not wise when we have plenty of funds in our hands, when we can pay out of funds which we hold, that we should be compelled to go into the market to borrow for the repayment of debentures. Let me refer the Hon'ble Member to clause 130, where he will find that our 'borrowing capacity shall not exceed 10 per cent. of the annual rateable value of buildings and land.' That is what our borrowing capacity is. As for borrowing from our common sinking fund, it is no less borrowing than from any separate sinking fund. It is a matter I shall better deal with in my reply to the Hon'ble Member in charge. It is one of the strongest arguments that has been inspired by the Hon'ble Mr. McLeod, that it is our borrowing capacity that would be constantly affected by our going to the market to borrow if we have to maintain separate sinking funds. I understand, the Hon'ble Member to say that our borrowing capacity would be affected."

The Hon'ble MR. MCLEOD said :—"The borrowing capacity is the ability to borrow."

The Hon'ble MR. APCAR, continuing, said: "Our ability to borrow is limited only by the reserve funds that may be available to pay loan charges, and our borrowing capacity of 10 per cent. on our rateable value of buildings and lands to which I have referred. We have not nearly encroached, and so far as the Corporation are concerned, the more fresh loans we have raised, the better has our borrowing capacity grown because we use the fresh loans for the improvement of the amenities of the town, and that enhances our rateable value. That is what our experience has been. Our rateable value has grown by leaps and bounds accordingly as we have borrowed and spent money to improve the amenities of the town. The hon'ble the Chairman of the Corporation is present here, and I know that he will agree with me when I say that the enormous strides that we have made in the increase of our income is a very remarkable fact. I have been led to refer to this point because of the criticisms that have been passed on our excessive borrowing. But in borrowing to repay debentures, the money obtained from which has already been expended on capital works, different considerations are involved. Then with regard to other matters, there is the Hon'ble Mr. Lyon who has, not for the first time, twitted me. I do not mind in the least, but he must not take it amiss if I retaliate. It is said by the hon'ble gentleman that we cannot have a Local Government Board, but he forgets possibly that it was one of the recommendations of Lord Morley that we should have a Local Government Board or something in the nature of one."

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI said: "Lord Ripon."

The Hon'ble MR. APCAR, continuing, said: "No; I beg the Hon'ble Member's pardon. Lord Morley, in his despatch, most distinctly said that it would be advisable to have a department similar to the Local Government Board at Westminster and that is what I have relied on again and again. That is what I think perhaps is all that is necessary to have municipal affairs properly conducted. But for a common sinking fund such a department will not be required. The Accountant-General could exercise all the control that would be required. Why should we not have a Local Government Board?'

The Hon'ble MR. LYON said :—"I beg the hon'ble gentleman's pardon. I did not say that it was impossible to constitute a Local Government Board. I said that our Local Government Board would be very inferior to the Local Government Board at home, which is a very different matter."

The Hon'ble MR. APCAR, continuing, said:—"Well, I daresay it will, but that is no reason why you should not have a Local Government Board such as

is possible, and get experts out from England to advise us how to set it up; but we do not do anything. I have been urging the necessity of a Local Government Board for years and I am met always by a *non possumus*. It is not as if we were asking for anything bad, but the want of an expert department of Government is a source always of confusion and want of confidence in the sanction and construction of our large works. That is what we want—the best we can get in the interests of the public.

The Hon'ble Mr. Lyon depends very much on what has been done and the enlightenment and advance we have seen in our municipal affairs. Why, Sir, from the first we have been half a century behind! In 1875, this very proposal with regard to the life of an asset in prescribing a loan, which I have had the honour to submit, was passed by Parliament, and at that very time, in 1876, nothing was done by the Government out here to obtain information, to legislate, and to give a system that had been tried and approved in Great Britain; but we were given a system that had been abandoned long years before; and we have continued not in an enlightened but in a benighted way. When the Hon'ble Member says that I have not the word 'compromise' in my vocabulary, I could not help thinking as the Hon'ble Member was speaking that I regard our proposals very much in the nature of two and two making four. I do not want to disparage the hon'ble gentleman's capacity at all, because great minds overlook such little details. I remember a story how Lord Kelvin, when lecturing to his students in Glasgow, made a ridiculous slip in simple addition of the same character. It is said, now that it is conceded that two and two make four, that I must accept as a compromise that two and three do not make five. That is the Hon'ble Mr. Lyon's idea of a compromise. The Hon'ble Member's idea of a compromise is on the same plane as that, and it is nothing but that. How can I compromise, on such terms? When enlightenment comes to the Hon'ble Mr. Lyon, what will he say of me, if I agree, like a courtier, who always acquiesces in whatever proposition is made to him. If, therefore, I agreed that two and three do not make five, would it not be handed down for ever against me, and when enlightenment comes to the Hon'ble Member, will he not think me a noodle for my complaisance? Unfortunately, as the Hon'ble Member says, our standpoints are different. I am sorry that they are, and if only the hon'ble gentleman had taken the same precautions as I have, he would have been able to place the matter, such as it stands, before the same experts, or any experts he might have chosen. I know what their answer would have been. The statement on which the experts have given their views is in my address to the Trades Association, of which the Hon'ble Member had a copy for a long time. I challenge criticism of it. It is a perfectly fair and true representation of the matter. It is one of my grievances that there has been no attempt by the Government to get any opinion or any expert views. What have we perceived? The Select Committee on this Bill the Hon'ble Member speaks of as a strong Committee. In what was their strength? In their knowledge of the subject? The Committee was composed of the most estimable gentlemen, but did any one of the Government Members or the mercantile Member know anything about the subject which they were called upon to revise? Do they know anything about municipal finance? In England this is not the way in which affairs are conducted. There, they are not too superior to ask advice, but get witnesses before them to give their expert testimony, and then they are able to judge; but here, apparently, minds are closed—the responsible authorities proceed as if they have nothing more to learn. Why, Sir, talk about the Select Committee? What, from first to last, is this precious Bill which has come to this Council? Is it such as would be considered correct anywhere else? What would the experts, legal or financial, say of it? I would very much like the hon'ble gentleman to have submitted this Bill for opinion to the Local Government Department. It would be a wholesome experience for the Government to learn what they would say. But the Hon'ble Member in charge has been in England on leave. I have reason for thinking that he has been in communication with the Local Government Board. Why is he so reserved regarding what he learned? As for our desires, being to a large extent met, I am always glad to compromise where no principle is involved, but what has been met? The most important principle which we have pressed for has been clear and distinct. We have wanted it

to be made clear and distinct, free from the ambiguities and uncertainties caused by the letter of Government, but the amendment by which we tried to secure that result was thrown out. What could be more directly controverted than the idea which has been entertained that a common sinking fund would be lowering our borrowing ability or capacity or whatever is said? The security for our loans does not depend on the sinking fund. I do not minimise the fact of the shortage. The Hon'ble Mr. Bompas, with that finality of expression of opinion which I so much admire, has come to tell us that I have been representing that the shortage was only a minor matter. I have never thought it a minor matter: I think it is a very serious matter, and as for immediately submitting the matter to Government and seeking or doing anything to prevent its recurring, we did do all that. As soon as it was found out, we communicated the fact to the Government and we voluntarily have been placing to the credit of a separate account large sums of money annually, over Rs. 3,00,000. It is earmarked for the purpose of meeting this particular shortage."

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON said :—

"Sir, may I ask if there has been any attempt to pay that money into the sinking fund, whether under the provisions of this Bill or otherwise?"

The Hon'ble MR. APCAR, continuing, said :—

"May I ask the hon'ble gentleman whether we have got any authority now to pay it into the sinking fund? It is a most amazing thing if the Hon'ble Member in charge even yet does not know that the Corporation cannot pay it into the sinking fund. The law forbids it, and that is how our present difficulty has been brought about. As a matter of fact, we have been setting apart a sum annually since we discovered the shortage, but I do not know whether it is permissible by law for us to do it, nevertheless we have continued to set it apart and we do not touch it. We do not pay it into the sinking fund because we cannot do so. If such a thing were discovered in England, the Local Government Board would come readily to help, in order to enable the difficulty to be overcome, but here we have been only able to earmark a sum annually and this we have been doing for years, and we have done this because we wish to show that we are to be true to our Trust. As for the control of the sinking fund being with Government, in what manner is that control to be exercised by Government? In what manner would it be different if there was a common sinking fund and separate accounts were kept? With a common sinking fund we would be in the best position; it would be a more simple arrangement, we should know exactly how matters were by our accounts, that is, each separate loan would have a distinct *pro forma* account: we would know exactly what we were doing, that we were not falling short in our payment from reserve, and that we were not paying over and above what was due. That is what has been done, and it is being continued to be done with perfect regularity elsewhere. There is no difficulty about it: the difficulties are only in the imagination of those who desire to oppose us. If the Hon'ble Members will only look at it fairly and squarely, it will be seen that these accounts are all that we need, to make our common sinking fund practicable and useful. It is rather difficult for me to take up each word of criticism by the Hon'ble Mr. Lyon, but I cannot pass over the disparaging remarks which have been made, in the last instance, by the hon'ble gentleman upon my comment on what His Excellency the Viceroy said. It is as well for me to state plainly just what was said. Mind you, Sir, we did not invite this opinion; we did not seek it. It was volunteered spontaneously, on a public occasion, as a gracious intimation of the consideration shown to our representations on a question of public importance, and we were much obliged for it. The words were these: 'It is hardly necessary for me to say that the intention is to treat the Corporation of Calcutta in respect of their loans in precisely the same way as the other Presidency Corporations.' 'In respect of their loans'—and is the sinking fund unconnected with loans? Why do we have it in the Municipal Loans Bill if it is? It is directly connected with loans, and I for one at once said when I heard His Excellency's speech (and was glad) that it was consistent with what I had heard from Sir William Meyer, that we were going to have a common sinking fund. I do not withdraw anything that I have said, and I repudiate and throw back all the aspersions which it has been attempted

to throw upon me. When His Excellency was here, I knew nothing of what was being evolved in the local Financial Department. All I can say is that Sir William Meyer himself—and he has not in any way qualified it and I would not mention it if he had made any secret of his statement to me—told me when he was lately in Calcutta that we should have a common sinking fund. All I can say is that if we are not to have one, the vitality of a Government department is very great." (The Hon'ble Member was stopped at this stage, having exceeded the time-limit.)

A division was then taken with the following result :—

Ayes 16.

The Hon'ble Mr. Sinha.

The Hon'ble Babu Upendra Lal Ray.

The Hon'ble Mr. Chakravarti.

The Hon'ble Raja Sheshi Kanta Acharyya Chaudhuri Bahadur.

The Hon'ble Raja Mahendra Ranjan Ray Chaudhuri.

The Hon'ble Mr Apcar.

The Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur.

The Hon'ble Dr. Deba Prasad Sarbadhikari, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Banerji.

The Hon'ble Rai Nalinaksha Basu Bahadur.

The Hon'ble Babu Prasanna Kumar Ray.

The Hon'ble Rai Hari Mohan Chandra Bahadur.

The Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Faz-ul-Haq.

The Hon'ble Dr. Nilratan Sarkar.

The Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Ray.

The Hon'ble Mr. G. H. C. Arifl.

Noes 31.

The Hon'ble Sir William Duke, K.C.I.E., C.S.I.

The Hon'ble Mr. Lyon, C.S.I.

The Hon'ble Nawab Saiyid Shams-ul-Huda.

The Hon'ble Mr. Cumming, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble Mr. Kerr, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble Mr. Stephenson, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble Mr. Samman.

The Hon'ble Mr. Newbould.

The Hon'ble Mr. Finnimore.

The Hon'ble Mr. McLeod.

The Hon'ble Nawab Sir Khwaja Salimullah Bahadur, G.C.I.E., K.C.S.I.

The Hon'ble Mr. Shorrock.

The Hon'ble Nawab Saiyid Nawab Ali Chaudhuri, Khan Bahadur.

The Hon'ble Mr. Glen.

The Hon'ble Maharaja Ranajit Sinha of Nashipur.

The Hon'ble Mr. Chaplin.

The Hon'ble Mr. Woods.

The Hon'ble Mr. Grice.

The Hon'ble Maulvi Musharraf Husain.

The Hon'ble Mr. Hilary.

The Hon'ble Mr. Stevenson-Moore, C.V.O.

The Hon'ble Mr. Hornell.

The Hon'ble Rai Priya Nath Mukharji Bahadur.

The Hon'ble Mr. Payne.

The Hon'ble Mr. Bompas.

The Hon'ble Colonel Harris, C.S.I., M.D., I.M.S.

The Hon'ble Mr. B. C. Mitra.

The Hon'ble Mr. Lang.

The Hon'ble Mr. Moberly.

The Hon'ble Nawab Saiyid Hossain Haider Chaudhuri, Khan Bahadur.

The Hon'ble Mr. Martin.

The following members were absent :—

The Hon'ble Sir Bijay Chand Mahtab, K.C.S.I., K.C.I.E., I.O.M., Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan.

The Hon'ble Maharaja Jagadindra Nath Ray.

The Hon'ble Babu Mahendra Nath Ray.

The Hon'ble Babu Ananda Chandra Ray.

The Hon'ble Raja Hrishikesh Laha, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble Maulvi Mazharul Anwar Chaudhuri.

The result of the division being Ayes 16, Noes 31, the motion was lost.

[*Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur : Vice-President ; Mr. Apcar : Maulvi A. K. Faz-ul-Haq.*]

The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR then said : "Am I not at liberty to move Amendment 28?"

The Hon'ble the VICE-PRESIDENT said : "I think not. It is identical. The rule is that identical amendments go out."

The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR said : "Amendments 26 and 27 have been withdrawn, but I submit that I have not withdrawn Amendment 28. I may very briefly put it—"

The Hon'ble the VICE-PRESIDENT said : "Rule 12 is that where identical motions stand in the names of two or more members, the President shall decide whose motion shall be moved, and the other motions shall thereupon be deemed to be withdrawn.

The Hon'ble MR. APCAR'S amendment has been dealt with and lost, so that your identical amendment goes also."

The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR said : "I respectfully submit that Amendment 27 A has not been moved by the Hon'ble Member."

The Hon'ble MR. APCAR said : "That is what I have just moved."

The Hon'ble the VICE-PRESIDENT said : "We have been discussing it for the last two hours. The Hon'ble Member is out of order in seeking to move Amendment 28. We must proceed, please."

The following motions were then, by leave of the President, withdrawn :—

List of Amendments—Motion No. 28. The Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur to move that, for clause 136 (*1*), the following be substituted, namely :—

"(*1*) The Corporation shall establish and maintain a Sinking Fund for the repayment of all loans raised by the issue of debentures, and shall pay into it, in respect of each of such loans, on the first day of every half-year (commencing from the half-year next after that in which the loan is raised), until the end of the prescribed period of such loan, such equated sum as would, with accumulations in the way of compound interest at the rate prescribed under sub-section (*2*), be sufficient, after payment of all expenses, to repay the loan at the end of its prescribed period :

Provided that, in respect of all outstanding loans raised by the issue of debentures before the commencement of the Calcutta Municipal (Loans) Act, 1914, notwithstanding anything contained in this sub-section, the Corporation shall pay into the Sinking Fund every half-year such sum as is mentioned in section 138, clause (*1*) (*b*).

List of Amendments—Motion No. 29. The Hon'ble Mr. Apcar to move that, for clause 136 (*3*), the following be substituted, namely :—

"(*3*) A separate account shall be kept showing the proportionate contributions paid into the Sinking Fund in respect of each loan and the proportionate growth of that fund."

List of Amendments—Motion No. 30. The Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur to move that, for clause 136(*3*), the following be substituted, namely :—

"(*3*) A separate account shall be kept showing the proportionate contributions paid in to the Sinking Fund in respect of each loan and the proportionate growth of that fund."

List of Amendments—Motion No. 31. The Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Faz-ul-Haq to move that, for clause 136(*3*), the following be substituted, namely :—

"(*3*) A separate account shall be kept of each loan, showing—

(*a*) the amount of borrowed money spent,
(*b*) the half-yearly contribution paid in respect thereof, and
(*c*) the proportionate growth of such contribution at the rate of interest prescribed under sub-section (*2*)."

[*Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur; Mr. Apcar; Mr. Stephenson.*]

The discussion of Motions Nos. 13 to 25 which had, by permission of the President, been postponed to Motions Nos. 26 to 31—see page 88—was then proceeded with.

The following motions were, by leave of the President, withdrawn:—

Clause 130.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 13. The Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur to move that the words "the Sinking Fund" be substituted for the words "Sinking Funds" in line 5 of clause 130.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 14. The Hon'ble Mr. Apcar to move that the words "the Sinking Fund" be substituted for the words "Sinking Funds" in line 5 of clause 130.

(At this stage of the proceedings His Excellency returned to the Chamber, and took the Chair.)

Clause 131.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 15. The Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur moved that the words "the Chairman, or Vice-Chairman and two Commissioners" be substituted for the words "such person" in line 2 of clause 131 (*1*).

He said:—

"My Lord, I beg to move that the words "the Chairman, or Vice-Chairman and two Commissioners" be substituted for the words "such person" in line 2 of clause 131 (*1*).

In clause 131 (*1*) it is provided that "all debentures issued under this Act shall be in such form, and signed by such person, as the Corporation may from time to time prescribe, with the previous sanction of the Local Government. The present procedure is that the Chairman, or Vice-Chairman and two Commissioners sign the debentures. I believe this procedure has not been objected to by Government because no inconvenience or disadvantage has been found, and it would be much simpler to lay down the existing procedure by the substitution of the word 'the Chairman, or Vice-Chairman and two Commissioners.' The existing debentures are signed by the Vice-Chairman and two Commissioners, and I do not think there will be any objection to have the present procedure continued."

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON said:—

"My Lord, the words such person have been put in by the Select Committee. The object of putting them in was to give the Corporation as wide a discretion as possible. The Corporation can adopt the present practice of having 'the Chairman, or Vice-Chairman and two Commissioners' or they can make it 'two Commissioners' or 'one Commissioner' with the previous sanction of the Local Government. The Hon'ble Member gives no reason why the discretion of the Corporation should be limited in this way, and I would suggest that it is not necessary to so limit it."

The Hon'ble MR. APCAR said:—

"My Lord, at all events the Hon'ble Member in charge will see that I am consistent in supporting the amendment. If it is to be permitted that any person can be delegated, then even a clerk can be delegated."

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON said:—

"They can delegate it to anyone with the sanction of the Local Government."

[*Mr. Apcar; Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur; Raja Hrishikesh Laha.*]

The Hon'ble MR. APCAR said :—

"I think it is better that it should be in the form that the Hon'ble Member has moved it, and for that reason I shall support the amendment."

The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR said :—

"My Lord, I may point out that people have got accustomed to the debentures, as now issued, signed by the Chairman, or Vice-Chairman and two Commissioners, and I think it would be better to retain the present practice by statutory provision in the Bill. If this practice is changed, although the value of debentures would not in any way be affected thereby, still different signatures of different officers at different times may not perhaps be so acceptable to the public, and, as there is no harm in continuing the practice, I would ask the Hon'ble Member in charge to accept the amendment."

The motion was then put and lost.

The following motions were, by leave of the President, withdrawn :—

Clause 131.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 16. The Hon'ble Mr. Apcar to move that the words "the Chairman, or Vice-Chairman and two Commissioners" be substituted for the words "such person" in line 2 of clause 131 (*1*).

Clause 135.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 17. The Hon'ble Mr. Apcar to move that the words "Act Amendment" be substituted for the brackets and word "(Loans)" in line 3 of clause 135.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 18. The Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur to move that the words "all other loans raised by the Corporation, by issue of debentures, before the commencement of that Act, shall also be repaid by either of the following methods" be substituted for the words "by such of the following methods as may be so approved" in lines 6 and 7 of clause 135.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 19. The Hon'ble Mr. Apcar to move that the words "all other loans raised by the Corporation, by issue of debentures, before the commencement of that Act, shall also be repaid by either of the following methods" be substituted for the words "by such of the following methods as may be so approved" in lines 6 and 7 of clause 135.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 20. The Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur to move that the word "the" be substituted for the word "a" in line 1 of clause 135 (*a*).

List of Amendments—Motion No. 21. The Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur to move that the words "in respect of the loan" in lines 1 and 2 of clause 135 (*a*) be omitted.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 22. The Hon'ble Mr. Apcar to move that the words "all loans raised by the issue of debentures" be substituted for the words "the loan" in line 2 of clause 135 (*a*).

List of Amendments—Motion No. 23. The Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur to move that the words "in respect of the loan" in line 2 of clause 135 (*c*) [now section 135 (*b*)] be omitted.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 24. The Hon'ble Mr. Apcar to move that the words "in respect of the loan" in line 2 of clause 135 (*c*) [now section 135 (*b*)] be omitted.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 25. The Hon'ble Raja Hrishikesh Laha to move that, for the words "clause (*c*) of section 128" in line 6 of clause 135 (*c*) [now section 135 (*b*)], the following be substituted, namely :—

"Clauses (*c*) and (*d*) of section 128."

[*Maulvi A. K. Faz-ul-Haq ; Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur ; Mr. Apcar ; Mr. Stephenson.*]

Motions withdrawn—*contd.*

Clause 137.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 32. The Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Faz-ul-Haq to move that, for clause 137, the following be substituted, namely :—

"137. Notwithstanding anything contained in section 136, if at any time the sum standing at credit of any loan in the separate account kept under section 136, sub-section (*3*), is of such amount that, if allowed to accumulate at the rate of interest prescribed under sub-section (*2*) of that section, it will be sufficient to repay the loan within the period prescribed for such repayment, then, with the permission of the Local Government, further half-yearly payments into the Sinking Fund may be discontinued."

Power to discontinue payments into Sinking Fund.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 33. The Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur to move that the words "separate account" be substituted for the words "Sinking Fund established for the repayment" in lines 3 and 4 of clause 137.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 34. The Hon'ble Mr. Apcar to move that the words "separate account" be substituted for the words "Sinking Fund established for the repayment" in lines 3 and 4 of clause 137.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 35. The Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur moved that the word "discharge" be substituted for the word "repay" in line 7 of clause 137.

He said :—

"My Lord, the amendment which I propose is a simple one. I beg to move that the word 'discharge' be substituted for the word 'repay' in line 7 of clause 137. We were advised in the Corporation when this Bill was being considered by our lawyers that this would be the proper word, and it is for the Hon'ble Member in charge to consider whether it can be accepted or not."

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON said :—

"My Lord, the Select Committee decided at the first meeting that they would use the word 'repay' as applied to a loan all through the Bill, and they have done so. I think the Hon'ble Member has overlooked the fact that this is the only occasion on which he objects to the word 'repay,' and that he has passed the word 'repay' elsewhere in the Bill."

The motion was then put and lost.

The following motions were, by leave of the President, withdrawn :—

List of Amendments—Motion No. 36. The Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur to move that the words "end of the prescribed period" be substituted for the words and figures "time approved under the second proviso to section 128 (*1*)" in lines 7 and 8 of clause 137.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 37. The Hon'ble Mr. Apcar to move that the words "end of the prescribed period" be substituted for the words and figures "time approved under the second proviso to section 128 (*1*)" in lines 7 and 8 of clause 137.

[*Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur; Mr. Apcar; Mr. Stephenson; Mr. Byomkes Chakravarti.*]

Motions withdrawn—*contd.*

List of Amendments—Motion No. 38. The Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur to move that the words "the Sinking" be substituted for the word "such" in the penultimate line of clause 137.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 39. The Hon'ble Mr. Apcar to move that the words "the Sinking" be substituted for the word "such" in the penultimate line of clause 137.

Clause 138.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 39 A. The Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur moved that, for the first five lines of clause 138, the following be substituted, namely :—

"In respect of all loans raised by the Corporation under this Act between the 1st April 1881 and the commencement of the Calcutta Municipal Loans Act, 1914, the following provisions shall have effect, namely":—

He said :—

'The Government having kindly conceded to treat the last loan of 34 lakhs in the same way as the loans that were raised before the 1st April 1912 and after the 1st April 1881, and having kindly consented to include the loan raised after the 1st April 1912 in that category, I think, my Lord, that this is a necessary amendment in order to enable that loan to be included in this section and, therefore, possibly this motion will be accepted by the Hon'ble Member in charge.'

The Hon'ble Mr. Stephenson :—

"My Lord, I accept the amendment."

The motion was then put and agreed to.

The following motions were, by leave of the President, withdrawn :—

List of Amendments—Motion No. 40. The Hon'ble Mr. Byomkes Chakravarti to move that, for clause 138, the following be substituted, namely :—

"138. The Corporation shall pay into the Sinking Fund the following sums :—

Provisions regarding payments into Sinking Fund.

(*a*) on the first day of every half-year, commencing from the 1st July 1914, in respect of such of the said loans as were repaid before the 31st March 1914, a sum representing four *per cent.* per annum on the amount of each of such loans, such payments to be continued, in the case of each of such loans, until the expiry of a period of 47 years from the date on which the loan was raised, and

(*b*) on the first day of every half-year, in respect of such of the said loans as have not been repaid before the 31st March 1914, a sum representing one *per cent.* per annum on the amount of each of such loans, until the expiry of a period of 47 years from the date on which the loan was raised."

List of Amendments—Motion No. 41. The Hon'ble Mr. Apcar to move that the first five lines of clause 138 be omitted.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 42. The Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur to move that the first five lines of clause 138 be omitted.

[*Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur ; Mr. Apcar ; Mr. Stephenson.*]

Motions withdrawn—*concld.*

List of Amendments—Motion No. 43. The Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur to move that the figures "1913" be substituted for the figures "1912" in line 3 of clause 138.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 44. The Hon'ble Mr. Apcar to move that the words "maintain a Sinking Fund in respect of all such loans, and shall" in lines 1 and 2 clause 138 (*1*) be omitted, and that the words "the Sinking" be substituted for the word "such" at the end of line 2 of the same clause.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 45. The Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur to move that the words "maintain a Sinking Fund in respect of all such loans, and shall" in lines 1 and 2 of clause 138 (*1*) be omitted, and that the words "the Sinking" be substituted for the word "such" at the end of line 2 of the same clause.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 46. The Hon'ble Mr. Apcar to move that the word "raised" be substituted for the word "taken" in the last line of clause 138 (*1*) (*a*).

List of Amendments—Motion No. 47. The Hon'ble Mr. Apcar to move that the words "expiry of a period of forty-seven years from the date on which the loan was raised" be substituted for the words "loan is repaid" in lines 5 and 6 of clause 138 (*1*) (*b*).

List of Amendments—Motion No. 48. The Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur to move that the words "expiry of a period of forty-seven years from the date on which the loan was raised" be substituted for the words "loan is repaid" in lines 5 and 6 of clause 138 (*1*) (*b*).

List of Amendments—Motion No. 48 A. The Hon'ble Mr. Stephenson moved that, for the letters and figures "Rs. 47,297." in the last line of clause 138 (*1*) (*c*), the following be substituted, namely :—

"Rupees sixty-six thousand."

He said :—

"This alteration is necessary because clause 138 (*c*) provides for the making up the deficit by paying four *per cent.* on the loans that have already been repaid, and the delay of one year has affected the calculations."

The motion was put and agreed to.

The following motions were, by leave of the President, withdrawn :—

List of Amendments—Motion No. 49. The Hon'ble Mr. Apcar to move that clause 138 (*3*) [now section 138 (*2*)] be omitted.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 50. The Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur to move that clause 138 (*3*) now section 138(*2*)] be omitted.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 51. The Hon'ble Mr. Apcar to move that the words "Act Amendment" be substituted for the brackets and word "(Loans)" in clause 138 (*3*) [now section 138(*2*)].

List of Amendments—Motion No. 52. The Hon'ble Mr. Apcar to move that clause 138 (*4*) [now section 138 (*4*)] be omitted.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 53. The Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur to move that clause 138 (*4*) [now section 138 (*4*)] be omitted.

[*Mr. Byomkes Chakravarti; Mr. Stephenson; Mr. Apcar.*]

New Clause 138A.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 53 A. The Hon'ble Mr. Byomkes Chakravarti moved that, after clause 138, the following clause be inserted, namely :—

"138 A. All securities and cash jointly or severally held, before the commencement of the Calcutta Municipal (Loans) Act, 1914, by the Secretary to the Government of Bengal in the Financial Department and the Accountant-General, Bengal, as Trustees for and in respect of Sinking Fund A referred to in section 138, clause (3), shall forthwith be transferred by them to the Corporation, and the Corporation shall hold the same as part of the Sinking Fund established under section 138."

Transfer of securities and cash to the Corporation

He said :—

"If I may say so, my Lord, this is a lawyer's amendment. In looking through the Bill I notice that, although in point of fact the present securities stand in the names of certain trustees, the present Bill provides that there will be no trustees in the future, and therefore, if there were no such clause there would be difficulty in having these securities transferred to the Corporation, and I have reason to believe that the Hon'ble Member in charge will accept this amendment."

The Hon'ble Mr. STEPHENSON said :—

"My Lord, this amendment does seem to fill a gap in the Bill and I am much obliged to the Hon'ble Member for this suggestion. I accept the amendment."

The motion was put and agreed to.

The following motions were, by leave of the President, withdrawn:—

List of Amendments—Motion No. 54. The Hon'ble Mr. Byomkes Chakravarti to move that, after clause 138, the following clause be inserted, namely :—

"138 A. All securities and cash jointly or severally held, before the commencement of this Act, by the Secretary to the Government of Bengal in the Financial Department and the Accountant-General, Bengal, as Trustees for and in respect of Sinking Fund A, shall forthwith be transferred by them to the Corporation, and the Corporation shall hold the same as part of the Sinking Fund established under section 136."

Transfer of securities and cash to the Corporation.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 55. The Hon'ble Mr. Apcar to move that, after clause 138, the following clause be inserted, namely :—

"138 A. All securities and cash jointly or severally held, before the commencement of this Act, by the Secretary to the Government of Bengal in the Financial Department and the Accountant-General, Bengal, as Trustees for and in respect of Sinking Fund A, shall forthwith be transferred by them to the Corporation, and the Corporation shall hold the same as part of the Sinking Fund established under section 136."

Transfer of securities and cash to the Corporation.

[*Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur; Mr. Apcar; Mr. Stephenson; Mr. Byomkes Chakravarti.*]

List of Amendments—Motion No. 56. The Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur to move that, after clause 138, the following clause be inserted, namely :—

"138 A. All securities and cash jointly or severally held, before the commencement of this Act, by the Secretary to the Government of Bengal in the Financial Department and the Accountant-General, Bengal, as Trustees for and in respect of Sinking Fund A, shall forthwith be transferred by them to the Corporation, and the Corporation shall hold the same as part of the Sinking Fund established under section 136."

Transfer of securities and cash to the Corporation.

Clause 139.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 57. The Hon'ble Mr. Apcar moved that clause 139 be omitted.

He said :—

"This follows, my Lord, on the amendment which has been made to clause 138, and I formally move for its acceptance. It affects the 34 lakhs which we protested against being included in the Bill as a loan on which 2 *per cent.* would be required to be paid as contribution, and the Government have been graciously pleased to see the justice of our demands."

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON said :—

"My Lord, I accept the amendment."

The motion was put and agreed to.

The following motions were, by leave of the President, withdrawn :—

List of Amendments—Motion No. 58. The Hon'ble Mr. Byomkes Chakravarti to move that clause 139 be omitted.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 59. The Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur to move that clause 139 be omitted.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 60. The Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur to move that the words "the loan of Rs. 34 lakhs" be substituted for the words "every loan" in line 1 of clause 139.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 61. The Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur to move that the words "and such rate of interest shall be deemed to be the prescribed rate of interest" be inserted at the end of clause 139 (2).

Clause 140.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 62. The Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur moved that the word "discharge" be substituted for the word "extinction" in line 1 of clause 140 (3).

He said :—

"This is merely a verbal amendment, and is according to the suggestion made by the Solicitor to the Corporation that "discharge" is the proper word."

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON said :—

"I think the Hon'ble Member wishes to use the word "discharge" here instead of the word "extinction." The wording was settled in the Select Committee, and in the absence of any particular reason I do not think we should alter it.

I may point out that in clause 141 the word "extinguishing" is used to which the Hon'ble Member has not objected."

The motion was then, by leave of the President, withdrawn.

[*Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur; Mr. Stephenson.*]

Proposed New Clause 140 (1).

List of Amendments—Motion No. 63. The Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur moved that, after clause 141, the following be inserted, namely :—

"141. (1) Notwithstanding anything hereinbefore contained, the Corporation may, in its discretion, pay off any debentures before the due date thereof if, before issuing such debentures, it reserved a right to do so and notified the fact of such reservation."

Power to Corporation to pay off debentures before due date

He said :—

"My Lord, such a provision is necessary in the interest of the Corporation. Clause 141 is not clear on the point. The loan is to be sanctioned subject to such terms and method of repayment as the Government may determine. I think there is no clear provision to the effect that the Corporation may at its discretion pay off the debentures before the due date if a notification is issued before the issue of the debentures. This would enable the Corporation to take advantage of the money market and to reduce the interest on the debentures, if it is advantageous to the Corporation to do so. I do not think that any question of principle is affected in the amendment which I have moved, and I hope the Hon'ble Member in charge will have no objection to accept it."

The Hon'ble Mr. Stephenson said :—

"My Lord, it is not quite clear to me what the Hon'ble Member means. As far as I read the amendment it only gives the Corporation power if it notifies before the issue of such debentures that it reserves the right to do so. Does the Hon'ble Member want to give statutory power that certain conditions may be imposed in the debentures? If so, I think it would be dangerous. The conditions which the Corporation may impose on its creditors under the debentures are not matters for statutory declaration: that would be a matter between the Corporation and its creditors.

As regards the second part, the paying off of debentures before the due date, it is not clear how they can be paid off before the due date. This can only be done under clause 135 (*c*) [now section 135 (*b*)], that is, by taking another loan and partly from the Sinking Fund. If the Hon'ble Member has in his mind that he wants to provide for a case where the Corporation is allowed to take a long-term loan and is allowed to reserve the right in the debenture to repay on or after a fixed date, then I think no such provision is required. There is nothing in the Bill to prevent the Government of India as part of the conditions of the loan allowing the Corporation to issue the debentures with this condition, and if the Government of India do so give the permission and the Corporation exercises its option, then the debentures may be paid off under clause 135 (*c*) [now section 135 (*b*)] by borrowing with the sanction of the Government of India for the balance of the loan.

I do not think this is required as it might operate to restrict the conditions which the Corporation may put in their debentures, and I consider that it is not advisable to have it."

The Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur said :—

"My Lord, I beg to state that that is exactly what is in my mind. If the Corporation at the time of issuing the debentures declare that they reserve the right to recall the debentures and pay off before the expiry of the date of the debentures, I think the Corporation should be in a position to do so, but as there is no express provision to that effect I think such a provision might be inserted. The principle is agreed to, as far as I understand from the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill, and I do not see what harm could be done by inserting this provision in the Bill. On the contrary I think the matter will be made clearer."

The motion was then put and lost.

Proposed new clause 141A.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 63 A. The Hon'ble Mr. Apcar moved that—

(1) the present clause 141 AA [now section 141B] be placed after clause 128 and be numbered as clause 128 A ;

(2) the present clause 141 A be numbered as clause 141 AA ; and

(3) the following be inserted as clause 141 A, namely :—

Application of Sinking Fund by Corporation.

141 A. (*1*) The Corporation may at any time apply the whole or any part of the Sinking Fund as follows (that is to say) :—

(*i*) in or towards the discharge of the principal moneys or any of them for the repayment of which the fund is established, provided that the yearly sums to be paid to the fund shall not be affected by such application ;

(*ii*) where the Corporation is authorised by this Act to raise money for any purpose, it may, instead of raising such money by the issue of fresh debentures, with the previous sanction of the Government of India, use for such purpose the whole or any part of any monies for the time being forming part of the Sinking Fund, and monies so used shall be deemed to be monies borrowed under the borrowing powers conferred by this Act ;

Provided that, when exercising this power, the Corporation shall—

(*a*) withdraw from the Sinking Fund a sum equal to the amount of the borrowing powers proposed to be exercised under this Act by the user of moneys from such Sinking Fund ;

(*b*) credit such account or accounts in the Sinking Fund as the Corporation may determine with the repayment of an amount of the principal monies, for the repayment of which the fund is established, equal to the sum withdrawn from the Sinking Fund, and thereupon the amount so credited shall be deemed to be principal monies discharged by application of the Sinking Fund ;

(*c*) debit the account of the borrowing power proposed to be exercised with an amount of principal monies equal to the sum withdrawn from the Sinking Fund, and thereupon such borrowing power shall be deemed to have been exercised as fully as if the said amount had been raised by the issue of fresh debentures, and the provisions of this Act relating to repayment and reborrowing shall apply thereto accordingly.

(*2*) When any of the principal monies are discharged by the application of any part of the Sinking Fund, the principal monies so discharged shall be deemed to be in respect of the borrowing powers conferred by this Act under which the principal monies for the repayment of which the Sinking Fund is established were borrowed.

He said :—

"My Lord, my reason for moving this amendment is that this clause has connection with the flotation of a loan, and it seems to me that it would be better grouped with the flotation of loans rather than where it is now placed with regard to Sinking Funds. If any action is to be taken

it would be taken at the time when application was being made to Government for a loan. In the communication that would be presented would be a representation to permit the Corporation to tender for debentures. That is the only reason why I have suggested it. I think it would be better there than in its isolated position here."

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON said :—

"My Lord, the object of the Select Committee was to give the Corporation power to invest in the new loan and therefore we put this clause in after the investing clause. I think it is quite suitable to place it there."

The Hon'ble MR. APCAR said :—

"My Lord, I thought that it would be an improvement in the Bill. However, if the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill will not have it, let it be dropped."

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON said :—

"Do I understand that the Hon'ble Member does not proceed further with this amendment?"

The Hon'ble MR. APCAR did not reply.

The motion was then, by leave of the President, withdrawn.

The following motions were also, by leave of the President, withdrawn :—

List of Amendments—Motion No. 63 B. The Hon'ble Mr. Apcar to move that, at the commencement of the present clause 141 A, the following words be inserted, namely :—

"Subject to the provisions of section 141 A."

Clause 141 A.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 64. The Hon'ble Mr. Apcar to move that the word "the" be substituted for the word "a" in line 1 of clause 141 A(*1*).

List of Amendments—Motion No. 65. The Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur to move that the word "the" be substituted for the word "a" in line 1 of clause 141 A (*1*).

List of Amendments—Motion No. 66. The Hon'ble Mr. Apcar to move that the word "appropriate" in line 3 of clause 141 A (*2*) be omitted.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 67. The Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur to move that the word "appropriate" in line 3 of clause 141 A (*2*) be omitted.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 67A.

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON said :—

"My Lord, I beg with your permission to move that for the amendment standing in my name in Motion No. 67 A* of the List of Amendments, the following be substituted :—

"That for the existing sub-clause (*2a*) [now sub-section (*3*)] of clause 141 A, the following be substituted, namely :—

'(*2a*) Monies standing at the credit of one or more Sinking Funds may, at the discretion of the Corporation, be invested together as a common fund, but it shall not be necessary for the Corporation to allocate the securities held in such investments among the several Sinking Funds.'

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* List of Amendments—Motion No. 67 A. The Hon'ble Mr. Stephenson to move that, for the existing clause (*2a*) of clause 141 A, the following be substituted, namely :—

"(*2a*) A separate account for each Sinking Fund shall be maintained in respect of every investment made under sub-section (*1*), but it shall not be necessary for the Corporation to allocate the securities held in the investments specified in that sub-section among the several Sinking Funds established under this Act."

"The new amendment was circulated to Hon'ble Members yesterday, and combines the first part of the existing sub-clause (2*a*) [now sub-section (*3*)] and the latter part of the amendment I proposed. The sole object is to ensure that the Sinking Funds shall be allowed to be invested together. It was pointed out in Select Committee that there was no intention to insist that each Sinking Fund should be invested separately, and I personally adhere to the opinion that there would never have been any practical difficulty. The Corporation would have invested exactly together as is done at present, but the question was raised and in Select Committee we first of all put in the present sub-clause (2*a*) [now sub-section (*3*)]. The objection was raised afterward by the Hon'ble Mr. Apcar that although it gave power to invest together it did not specifically give power to sell out, and there might be difficulty in selling out when we had occasion to use one of the Sinking Funds to repay its loan. Government desires that there should be no doubt on the subject, and after consulting the Accountant-General and our legal advisers I have framed the section in this way, so as to give what both we and the Corporation desire. As a matter of fact I do not think that, whatever the form of words used, there will be or can be any practical difficulty. The operation of the Sinking Fund will be entirely in the hands of the Corporation, and they will do what any practical man would do."

The Hon'ble MR. BYOMKES CHAKRAVARTI said :—

"My difficulty is, and I say so only from the point of view of a lawyer, in construing this Bill. My difficulty is that it seems to me to be in conflict with clause 141 E [now section 141F] if it stands in the form in which it is now. The position is this, if I may explain, my Lord. As I understand it you can take money from a separate Sinking Fund and invest in debentures and these debentures you do not equate to any particular loan. I will presume there are ten loans and out of ten loans you take out ten lakhs of rupees and invest in debentures but these debentures are not allocated or credited to any of the particular ten loans, but the provision in the Bill is that there is to be a separate Sinking Fund and naturally there must be a separate account. Clause 141 E [now section 141F] provides that—

'(*1*) All Sinking Funds established under this Act shall be subject to annual examination by the Accountant-General, Bengal, who shall ascertain whether the cash and the current value of the securities at credit of such funds are actually equal to the amount which would have accumulated had investments been regularly made and had the rate of interest as originally estimated been obtained therefrom.

(*2*) The Corporation shall forthwith pay into any Sinking Fund any amount which the Accountant-General may certify to be deficient, unless the Government of India specially sanction a gradual readjustment.

(*3*) If the cash and the current value of the securities at credit of any Sinking Fund are more than equal to the amount which should have accumulated in the circumstances described in sub-section (*1*), the Accountant-General shall certify the amount of such excess sum, and the Corporation shall thereupon transfer the excess sum to the General Fund.'

As I read it and especially clause (*2*) makes it clear to my mind that the Accountant-General must every year count the monies and the securities to the credit of any of these particular Sinking Funds and if in point of fact one of the Sinking Funds is shown to be deficient with regard to what ought to have been paid into it, then the Corporation ought to make it good. My difficulty is if 67 A as the Hon'ble Member has now moved it stands, that is to say, that the debentures are to be purchased and there is to be no allocation of any of these particular accounts, then clause 141 E [now section 141F] will have to be changed in order to be in conformity with the clause which the Hon'ble Member has just moved."

The Hon'ble MR. APCAR said :—

"I support my friend in what he says. I think there are very grave difficulties in this matter having reference to clause 141 E [now section 141F]

[*Babu Surendra Nath Banerji; Mr. Apcar; Mr. Stephenson; Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur.*]

sub-clause (*3*), because it will be seen it says those "cash and current value of the securities at credit of such funds are actually equal to the amount, etc." There are to be quite separate Sinking Funds, and if the Accountant-General is to certify the amount of excess or deficiency, how will he be able to do so if there is to be no allocation of the different securities to the different funds?"

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI said :—
"Will not the account show it?"

The Hon'ble MR. APCAR said :—

"The account of each fund is to be separate. It would require the recasting of clause (*3*) to enable it to be done. It would require a proportionate value of securities held for investment, and so on. As it now is I think the Hon'ble Member in charge if he looks into it will find great difficulty. I do not want anything to be enacted which will cause a difficulty if it can be altered, and I would advise him to seriously reconsider what we say."

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON said :—

"The objection is admittedly a lawyer's objection. The practical difficulty, as I understand it, is not connected with the amendment I now move but is in connection with the possible difficulty in the way of the Accountant-General under clause 141 E [now section 141 F]. I can assure the Council what will happen with the Accountant-General under that clause. What will happen is what happens now, and that is that the Accountant-General will test the separate Sinking Funds to see whether the Corporation have paid in the right amount and whether that amount is credited in the books as accumulated to the right sum. He will then take the totals of the separate Sinking Funds against the totals of investments. I am told by the Accountant-General himself that that is the only possible method of doing it and it is the way it will be done. Therefore there will be no practical difficulty in the working of clause 141 E [now section 141 F], and I hope the advantage of not allocating the securities is far greater than any lawyer's objections to clause 141 E [now section 141 F]. I think therefore the Council may safely accept this present amendment."

The motion was then put and agreed to.

The following motions were then, by leave of the President, withdrawn :—

List of Amendments—Motion No. 68. The Hon'ble Mr. Apcar to move that clause 141 A (*2a*) [now section 141 A (*3*)] be omitted.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 69. The Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur to move that clause 141 A (*2a*) [now section 141 A (*3*)] be omitted.

Clause 141 A A [now section 141 B].

List of Amendments—Motion No. 69 A. The Hon'ble Mr. Apcar moved that in line 1 of clause 141 AA [now section 141 B] after the word "may," the following words be inserted, namely :—

"for the purpose of investing any portion of its funds, including its Sinking Fund or Sinking Funds."

He said :—

"I think, my Lord, as it now is phrased this clause will cause some confusion, because while in the marginal note it is stated that this clause is for the purpose of giving power to the Corporation to reserve a portion of loan debentures for investment on Sinking Fund there is no mention of Sinking Funds in the body of the clause at all, and if we are to be guided by the marginal note then the municipal funds cannot be invested. In that way I think it will be an advantage if it is intended for Sinking Funds to be tendered for debentures that it should be made clear on the face of the clause. As it now reads it is 'the Corporation may, with the previous sanction of the Government, &c., &c.' There is no mention anywhere

of the Sinking Fund being able to be utilized. All I suggest, to avoid confusion, is that there should be something done to meet this omission and I have volunteered my suggestion that those words be inserted."

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON said :—

"I am perfectly willing to accept the amendment of the Hon'ble Member if he thinks it is desirable to mention the Sinking Fund.

The motion was then put and agreed to."

LIST OF AMENDMENTS—MOTION NO. 70.

The Hon'ble MR. BYOMKES CHAKRAVARTI said :—

"With regard to motion No. 70 which stands in my name, I will not detain the House for any length of time. It was intended to be moved only for the purpose of bringing the Bill into conformity with the English practice, but it has been pointed out to me by the Hon'ble Mover, and I accept that, that in the Corporation of Calcutta there are three distinct authorities: there is the Chairman of the Corporation, then there is the Corporation itself, and then there is the General Committee. Therefore it will be better to have it in the name of the Chairman, and I therefore beg to withdraw the amendment."

The following motion was then, by leave of the President, withdrawn :—

List of Amendments—Motion No. 70. The Hon'ble Mr. Byomkes Chakravarti to move that the words "Corporation of Calcutta" be substituted for the words "Chairman of the Corporation of Calcutta, on behalf of the Corporation," in lines 4 and 5 of clause 141 AA (*1*) [now section 141 B (*1*)].

List of Amendments—Motion No. 71. The Hon'ble Mr. Apcar moved that the inverted commas after the word "Calcutta" in line 5 of clause 141 AA (*1*) [now section 141 B (*1*)] be omitted, and be inserted after the word "Corporation" at the end of the said line.

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON said :—

"We followed the Bombay wording in the present Bill, but I think the Hon'ble Member is right and the inverted commas should come out, and I accept the amendment."

The motion was then put and agreed to.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 72. The Hon'ble Mr. Apcar moved that the words "at par" be inserted after the word "issued" in line 6 of clause 141 AA (*1*) [now section 141 B (*1*)].

He said :—

"My amendment is that after the word "issued" the words "at par" be inserted. Those debentures will have to be paid at par, and I think it is only right when the debentures are being tendered for by the Corporation that they should pay as much as they are going to get back, otherwise they are under discount, and I don't think it would be fair that they should be paid less to get more later on at the end of the period of issue. That is the reason I move this, as the position attacks the present generation if there is going to be unfairness. I understand the member in charge is willing to accept that."

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON said :—

"I am afraid I cannot accept the amendment in its present form. Will the Hon'ble Mover move instead that the words "at par" be inserted after the word "issue" in the third line?"

[*Babu Surendra Nath Banerji; Mr. Apcar; Mr. Stephenson; Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur.*]

sub-clause (*3*), because it will be seen it says those "cash and current value of the securities at credit of such funds are actually equal to the amount, etc." There are to be quite separate Sinking Funds, and if the Accountant-General is to certify the amount of excess or deficiency, how will he be able to do so if there is to be no allocation of the different securities to the different funds?"

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI said :—
"Will not the account show it?"

The Hon'ble MR. APCAR said :—

"The account of each fund is to be separate. It would require the recasting of clause (*3*) to enable it to be done. It would require a proportionate value of securities held for investment, and so on. As it now is I think the Hon'ble Member in charge if he looks into it will find great difficulty. I do not want anything to be enacted which will cause a difficulty if it can be altered, and I would advise him to seriously reconsider what we say."

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON said :—

"The objection is admittedly a lawyer's objection. The practical difficulty, as I understand it, is not connected with the amendment I now move but is in connection with the possible difficulty in the way of the Accountant-General under clause 141 E [now section 141 F]. I can assure the Council what will happen with the Accountant-General under that clause. What will happen is what happens now, and that is that the Accountant-General will test the separate Sinking Funds to see whether the Corporation have paid in the right amount and whether that amount is credited in the books as accumulated to the right sum. He will then take the totals of the separate Sinking Funds against the totals of investments. I am told by the Accountant-General himself that that is the only possible method of doing it and it is the way it will be done. Therefore there will be no practical difficulty in the working of clause 141 E [now section 141 F], and I hope the advantage of not allocating the securities is far greater than any lawyer's objections to clause 141 E [now section 141 F]. I think therefore the Council may safely accept this present amendment."

The motion was then put and agreed to.

The following motions were then, by leave of the President, withdrawn :—

List of Amendments—Motion No. 68. The Hon'ble Mr. Apcar to move that clause 141 A (*2a*) [now section 141 A (*3*)] be omitted.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 69. The Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur to move that clause 141 A (*2a*) [now section 141 A (*3*)] be omitted.

Clause 141 A A [now section 141 B].

List of Amendments—Motion No. 69 A. The Hon'ble Mr. Apcar moved that in line 1 of clause 141 AA [now section 141 B] after the word "may," the following words be inserted, namely :—

"for the purpose of investing any portion of its funds, including its Sinking Fund or Sinking Funds."

He said :—

"I think, my Lord, as it now is phrased this clause will cause some confusion, because while in the marginal note it is stated that this clause is for the purpose of giving power to the Corporation to reserve a portion of loan debentures for investment on Sinking Fund there is no mention of Sinking Funds in the body of the clause at all, and if we are to be guided by the marginal note then the municipal funds cannot be invested. In that way I think it will be an advantage if it is intended for Sinking Funds to be tendered for debentures that it should be made clear on the face of the clause. As it now reads it is 'the Corporation may, with the previous sanction of the Government, &c., &c.' There is no mention anywhere

[*Mr. Apcar; President.*]

"141 AAAA. (*1*) The Corporation shall, as part of the general account of the Sinking Fund, cause to be maintained—

Statement of account to be kept by Corporation.

(*a*) a separate account showing the proportionate contributions paid into the Sinking Fund in respect of each loan and also the proportionate growth of that fund;

(*b*) an account showing the securities on which all sums paid into the said Sinking Fund are from time to time invested; and

(*c*) separate accounts relative to each undertaking or purpose for, or in respect of which, any principal monies for the repayment of which the Sinking Fund is established were borrowed.

(*2*) The said separate accounts shall clearly distinguish and show the amounts of all principal monies outstanding for the time being which are chargeable to each undertaking or purpose."

He said :—

"With regard to these two clauses the Secretary will bear me out when I say that in sending my notice for these two clauses in item No. 73 A I intimated my intention to move them separately, if permitted so to do by the Chair, and to speak on them separately. They are with reference to two distinct powers: one is for the purpose of the purchase of debentures out of the Sinking Fund and the other is for the purchase out of the Municipal funds."

The PRESIDENT said :—

"The Secretary has gone into this matter, and he tells me that there is no possible objection if the Hon'ble Member desires to proceed as he says. There is one point which the Secretary points out, and that is that the time-limit is half an hour for the whole amendment."

The Hon'ble MR. APCAR said :—

"I cannot argue it in that time. I would ask that these two parts of the amendment should be separated and that I should be given the full time limit for each. Is the time limit running against me all this time?"

The PRESIDENT said :—

"Yes."

The Hon'ble MR. APCAR said :—

"Then I had better hurry on. The powers which it is proposed to confer on the Corporation under my amendments in this behalf are—

"To extinguish by cancellation any debenture issued by that Body which is held in the Sinking Fund, or has been purchased with money taken from the Sinking Fund."

The cancellation under this clause will be of the principal only, the loan charges being still payable out of Revenue funds.

This is distinguished from sub-clause 2, where power will be sought for the Corporation to purchase their own debentures out of the proceeds of the sale of land or their surplus cash balances available for such purpose and extinguish such debentures. Under the latter clause both principal and payment of loan charges would be completely extinguished.

Borrowing by mortgage-deed by local authorities in Great Britain is one of the oldest, as it is the most popular, method of contracting loans in Great Britain. And it is interesting to learn in this connection the following opinion expressed by Mr. George Biddell in his book, *Loans of Local Authorities*, to which I before have referred :—

"One of the chief advantages of the mortgage system is that it allows of the application of the Sinking Fund, from time to time, to the extinction of the debt if the whole amount of the loan is not secured by one bond, but is divided among several, and some of them are redeemable in fairly short periods from the date of borrowing."

[*Babu Surendra Nath Banerji; Mr. Apcar; Mr. Stephenson; Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur.*]

sub-clause (*3*), because it will be seen it says those "cash and current value of the securities at credit of such funds are actually equal to the amount, etc." There are to be quite separate Sinking Funds, and if the Accountant-General is to certify the amount of excess or deficiency, how will he be able to do so if there is to be no allocation of the different securities to the different funds?"

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI said :—
"Will not the account show it?"

The Hon'ble MR. APCAR said :—

"The account of each fund is to be separate. It would require the recasting of clause (*3*) to enable it to be done. It would require a proportionate value of securities held for investment, and so on. As it now is I think the Hon'ble Member in charge if he looks into it will find great difficulty. I do not want anything to be enacted which will cause a difficulty if it can be altered, and I would advise him to seriously reconsider what we say."

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON said :—

"The objection is admittedly a lawyer's objection. The practical difficulty, as I understand it, is not connected with the amendment I now move but is in connection with the possible difficulty in the way of the Accountant-General under clause 141 E [now section 141 F]. I can assure the Council what will happen with the Accountant-General under that clause. What will happen is what happens now, and that is that the Accountant-General will test the separate Sinking Funds to see whether the Corporation have paid in the right amount and whether that amount is credited in the books as accumulated to the right sum. He will then take the totals of the separate Sinking Funds against the totals of investments. I am told by the Accountant-General himself that that is the only possible method of doing it and it is the way it will be done. Therefore there will be no practical difficulty in the working of clause 141 E [now section 141 F], and I hope the advantage of not allocating the securities is far greater than any lawyer's objections to clause 141 E [now section 141 F]. I think therefore the Council may safely accept this present amendment."

The motion was then put and agreed to.

The following motions were then, by leave of the President, withdrawn :—

List of Amendments—Motion No. 68. The Hon'ble Mr. Apcar to move that clause 141 A (*2a*) [now section 141 A (*3*)] be omitted.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 69. The Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur to move that clause 141 A (*2a*) [now section 141 A (*3*)] be omitted.

Clause 141 A A [now section 141 B].

List of Amendments—Motion No. 69 A. The Hon'ble Mr. Apcar moved that in line 1 of clause 141 AA [now section 141 B] after the word "may," the following words be inserted, namely :—

"for the purpose of investing any portion of its funds, including its Sinking Fund or Sinking Funds."

He said :—

"I think, my Lord, as it now is phrased this clause will cause some confusion, because while in the marginal note it is stated that this clause is for the purpose of giving power to the Corporation to reserve a portion of loan debentures for investment on Sinking Fund there is no mention of Sinking Funds in the body of the clause at all, and if we are to be guided by the marginal note then the municipal funds cannot be invested. In that way I think it will be an advantage if it is intended for Sinking Funds to be tendered for debentures that it should be made clear on the face of the clause. As it now reads it is 'the Corporation may, with the previous sanction of the Government, &c., &c.' There is no mention anywhere

[*Mr. Apcar.*]

It seems supererogatory for me to justify the system of purchase and cancellation of their own debentures that has been in use by local authorities in Great Britain, certainly over 30 years, and continues to be practised there in the present day without suspicion of its financial unsoundness. The power is found in laws of general application in Great Britain and in very many local laws. And when, to any local authority who by chance is not already possessed of it, the power if desired would be included in any special local law without question by the Parliament at Westminster, any opinion against it in Calcutta on the merits of the system would not be very convincing. I feel it to be less presumptuous to accept it without demur.

On the surface of the question, when the Corporation are not only empowered by law to purchase their own debentures but that is the only form of investment made from their Sinking Fund instead of holding them in that fund until the due date for their repayment arrives, it may be for 20 or 25 years, it seems preferable to give authority for their cancellation, with the sanction of the Local Government (the amendment proposes that cancellation cannot be effected without the approval of Government), who could exercise full authority to control the discretion of the Corporation, have regard to the condition of the money market, or any other circumstance, and could impose any conditions, such as to the particular issue of debentures which should be cancelled; and of course could refuse to sanction for any reasons they might think fit.

In the Corporation of Newcastle-upon-Tyne where the rate of interest payable on their securities is $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. and the rate for growth is calculated at 3 per cent., the saving to the Revenue funds of the Corporation, we have learned from their Treasurer, is considered to be at $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. annually, an economy which, as we have seen, is appreciated by them. In the Calcutta Corporation where the interest on our debentures is 4 per cent., the saving would be 1 per cent. And even if that saving would be made over to the Revenue fund under special provision in our Bill, from the point of view of the Corporation as Trustees of public funds, they should not overlook the gain to be obtained by avoiding payment of brokerage on sales when effected in the open market, and commission due to the Bank whenever money is handled by them.

The Sinking Fund is constituted for the purpose of paying the debts of the Corporation, and it would be only in performance of one of its chief functions to cancel a debenture and so enable the Sinking Fund from time to time to be applied to the extinction of their debt. It would afford an opportunity of purchasing at discount when their debentures are being sold below par, instead of being compelled helplessly to wait, even in such circumstances, until the full period of the issue when repayment must be made at par; it would avoid probably the trouble of seeking for purchasers through brokers and the risk of selling at a discount and perhaps of fraud while the debenture remains valid for full effect as a negotiable document.

Whenever monies (or investments of the money) of that fund are withdrawn from the Sinking Fund, it is imperative that its accumulation and growth, to provide at its maturity the full amount payable, must not be interrupted. The loan charges must scrupulously be continued to be paid out of Revenue funds into the Sinking Fund. The proceeding is accurately described by Mr. Darnell in his letters to me. He writes :—

> "Loans may be paid off temporarily out of Capital Account, or they may be extinguished out of Sinking Fund. Where the latter course is adopted, a deficiency is sure to occur in the Sinking Fund, if the calculated annual instalment to redeem the loan is not continued, and if in addition to this there is not carried to the fund interest at a rate of least 3 per cent. on part of the fund so applied in the extinction of the debt. This is necessary because the Sinking Fund has been withdrawn from investment and the earning capacity of that fund so curtailed. In other words, by withdrawing it before maturity you must put into the fund what it would have earned had it been allowed to remain there."

Mr. Turner also makes it very plain in one of his letters to me. He says :—

> "In England, the annual Sinking Fund instalments are required to be set aside and invested. If during the Sinking Fund period any part of the amount in the fund be applied in redemption of the loan, the Sinking Fund should be recouped the amount of interest which would have been earned by the amount of the fund so applied. This is a statutory obligation imposed in all cases, and follows naturally from the normal principles governing all Sinking Funds."

It will therefore be seen that in the scheme for cancellation of debentures, taken from the Sinking Fund, there is no danger of the Sinking Fund falling short of the full amount required at the end of the prescribed period.

One of the objections taken has been that in the system of purchase and cancellation there would be an element of complication and speculation. The fear of complication suggests want of knowledge of the subject, because only the simplest of accounts would be required. By speculation is implied purchase in the hope of a large profit with the risk of a loss. Any examination of the question would quickly reveal that whatever the objection, certainly the charge of speculation would never lie. The Corporation would buy at their own option, at their own time and at their own price, and never above par. At the time of purchase they would know exactly what they would pay, and exactly the price they would receive, which must be the par value. By purchase and cancellation, speculation would, on the contrary, be prevented, because if the Corporation purchased as an investment, they could not say what price they would receive when forced to sell for the repayment of other debentures on their due date. Another objection taken is that the withdrawal of debentures from circulation would compel re-borrowing at a future date. But whether the money required is obtained from the public by the sale of old debentures or by the issue of new, a loan is floated. And the Vice-Chairman seems to have correctly contended that in the meantime commission for the service of the loans which is paid on the aggregate of outstanding loans would be paid on the uncancelled debentures, and when the time arrived for the sale of old debentures, brokerage must also be paid, and that, even if the cost of stamps is incurred on the new issue, at some future time, it should remember that in the interval the money would be available for the improvement of the town which is calculated to raise its valuation and consequently to increase the revenue of the Corporation."

The Hon'ble Mr. Stephenson said :—

"Dealing with the first part of this amendment, it is a proposal that has been before the Government on several occasions on behalf of the Corporation and which has eventually been withdrawn by the Corporation. At their last meeting the Corporation by a majority decided that they did not want it on the ground, as I understand from a perusal of their proceedings, that there was no saving or advantage to them in this. At all events in this case it is the Hon'ble Member who is introducing something new. Hon'ble members will agree that the onus is upon him to prove the advantage. I have listened carefully to the Hon'ble Member, but I have not been able to follow him possibly because the time is short and he has hurried through, and I have not been able to gather what the advantages were that he put forward. The proposal is that when you have got money in your Sinking Fund all invested in Municipal debentures, you should cancel your debentures and go on paying the interest on them into the Sinking Fund and so pretend to pay them off. It is a pure paper transaction and you have not reduced your debt. Instead of owing your creditors the face value of your debentures you owe it to your Sinking Fund. My objection to it is that it is another form of borrowing from the Sinking Fund. You cannot get away from the fact that it is borrowing from the Sinking Fund and you admit it is because you have to pay interest

to the Sinking Fund. In the Corporation debates on it Mr. Meugens, who is an authority on accounts at all events, opposed this motion strongly and said it was a fictitious method of enhancing your credit; that you do not pay off your debt and you do not enhance your credit; that you simply transfer your debt from outside to the Sinking Fund. Further, what happens when you have to repay your loans? You have no money in the Sinking Fund; you have only cancelled debentures. As you go on paying interest into the Sinking Fund you go on purchasing debentures and cancelling them. You will have the whole of the debentures of a given loan cancelled in the Sinking Fund. You hold a certain number but you have got to pay off the rest. It can hardly be hoped that when you pay off loans and you borrow from the Sinking Fund you hold a certain number which are cancelled and you have to borrow the rest. If you have a separate Sinking Fund you cancel the certain number of debentures you hold, and you have certain number of debentures of other loans and you sell them and get the money to repay. Under the proposal of the Hon'ble Mr. Apcar you have nothing to sell out but you have to borrow. It is solely a question of selling old debentures or borrowing on new ones. When speaking on another motion this morning, I said there was a difference of opinion as to which was cheaper. In any case there is not the marked difference that would support the cancellation of debentures. The Hon'ble Mr. Apcar has referred to the practice at Home again in support of it. There is one difference between this and the municipalities at Home. They have to cancel their debentures because they are not allowed to hold them. It is not considered a safe investment for a municipality at Home to keep its Sinking Fund in its own debentures. It may invest in the municipality next door. It does do so. It gets round in that way. Under the law they are not allowed in the majority of cases to hold debentures; they therefore have got to sell. The disadvantage under which they labour at Home can hardly be brought forward as a reason for introducing the practice here.

I think, your Excellency, that I need not detain the Council any further. As a matter of fact I think the Council have really passed an opinion on this by declining to have a common Sinking Fund. I take it that that opinion of Council is based on the necessity of having a simple form of Sinking Fund with no form of complications and one that will ensure that the money is there when it is wanted. This system does introduce complications; it does mean re-borrowing, for you have to pay your debt, and as I say neither the Hon'ble Mr. Apcar nor the Corporation in their meeting have been able to produce any reason which shows the slightest advantage on the proposal."

The Hon'ble MR. APCAR said:—

"The Hon'ble Member in charge has told us that there is a great distinction between Municipal Corporations in Great Britain and the Calcutta Corporation, because in Great Britain they cannot hold their own debentures as investments, but when they elect to purchase their own debentures and are then compelled to discard them, it is an option which is deliberately exercised, so that as a matter of fact they pursue that system with approval. And as a matter of fact there are Municipal Corporations in Great Britain with power of investing in their own debentures where the same power as I seek exists and is exercised. The Hon'ble Member in charge has referred to the Corporation as having on several occasions, under their old Chairman, asked for the power to purchase and extinguish their debentures, and having eventually under the present Chairman withdrawn that request. The Hon'ble Member would be more convincing in making a point of this circumstance had he shown any disposition to accede to the requests of the Corporation for powers for which they have urgently and persistently pressed. The Hon'ble Member is anxious that old debentures should be held ready for sale, and wishes us to regard the sale of old debentures as not a borrowing by the Corporation. He seems not to appreciate that the sale of old debentures is a flotation of a loan, with the disadvantage of a very large number of debentures, of different issues, being thrown on

to the market at the same time. The sale of old debentures is no less a borrowing by the Corporation from the public than the money obtained on the issue of new debentures. My Lord, I think there are many advantages to the Corporation in cancelling their old debentures. With a limit of time it is difficult to treat this matter freely, but I will try to state them briefly: non-payment of commission to banks and brokerage; avoidance of discount on sale of old debentures for repayment of other debentures at due date; debentures held in the Sinking Fund are of various dates for repayment, while the dates of repayment of the whole issue of new debentures of a loan are necessarily the same, and would ordinarily be for a period to run longer than in the case of old debentures, a circumstance more acceptable to investors; issue of new debentures is widely advertised; in the sale of old debentures the broker has to seek out purchasers; all these circumstances are in favour of the issue of new debentures. I may add that the discount, if any, on the floatation of new debentures may be minimised or avoided altogether by advertising a minimum rate that will be accepted."

New clause 141 AAA (*1*), as proposed by the Hon'ble Mr. Apcar, was then put to the vote and lost.

The Hon'ble Mr. Apcar then proceeded to move his proposed new clause 141 AAA (*2*) and said :—

"Of course I do not question your Lordship's ruling on the subject of the time limit, but there not being enough time I cannot do justice to my statement, and I will again have to hurry through as quickly as I can.

The power to purchase debentures for cancellation with money from the Municipal Fund (which is a fund distinct from the Sinking Fund) is even more important than the power of cancelling debentures purchased from money taken out of the Sinking Fund, because the cancellation under the former power will completely extinguish the debt, not only to the extent of the face value of the debenture cancelled, but also the loan charges payable on that amount, because the money for the purchase not having been withdrawn from the Sinking Fund, the interest payable to prevent a shortage need not be recouped.

In Great Britain, rent received from land acquired out of Capital funds is payable to the Loans Fund, which seems only fair. I have not ventured so far, although I am entirely in its favour. But clearly it would be only equitable that the profit made on the resale of land which has been acquired out of borrowed money should be allowed to go towards the reduction of the indebtedness of the Corporation and the consequent increase of borrowing power.

I do not think the extent to which our cash balances run is generally appreciated. Last year the cash balances were in the Revenue Fund Rs. 23,58,113, in the Loan Fund Rs. 26,34,320.

We are concerned only with the cash balances in the Revenue Fund, the money in the Loan Fund being earmarked for particular works on account of which money has been borrowed. The latter cash balances, however, show the amount of money on which loan charges are being paid, but which still are unutilized.

The cash balance in the Revenue Fund is due to money having been collected from the rate-payers in excess of the requirements of the year. I will avoid entering upon this thorny subject in the present discussion. I could go into detail and give remarkable instances in this connection, all of which have occurred under the present constitution of the Corporation. I need only mention in general terms that the Corporation have been in the habit of exacting money from the rate-payers of Calcutta in the form of rates; and the Corporation having got the money have left a large portion unutilised. The unutilised balance the Corporation had no right to have exacted. The statutory obligation is to keep a minimum sum of Rs. 2 lakhs as the cash balance. This sum is insufficient to meet the cost of our establishment, the bills of contractors remaining unpaid for work completed in the closing

month of the previous year, or to be done shortly after, all payable before the revenue of the Corporation begins to come in, and is available in the early days of the new financial year. But Rs. 6 lakhs would be amply sufficient for all such purposes, and Rs. 10 lakhs, which it has been the custom to reserve, has been shown to be far larger than is wanted.

Very large sums continue to be shown year after year to accumulate as cash balances. It has been difficult to suggest a definite method how to treat these sums. It would not be a feasible idea to give the money back to those from whom it had been taken. Nor would the reduction of rates be quite satisfactory, because many persons would unduly profit who had not contributed to the cash balance. It of course would be best if rate-payers were never compelled to pay so much in excess of requirements; but the Corporation having become possessed of these large sums, collected on the part of Commissioners perhaps innocently, I submit the fairest plan would be to give the power to the Corporation, which I propose, to spread the benefit over a series of years as could be done by completely extinguishing debentures, and so reduce the annual loan charges for which the revenue otherwise would continue to be liable. It may happen that surplus cash to a large extent is available, when there is no immediate prospect of a loan. The power which I ask for could then be exercised with great advantage. I have made it clear in my proposal that the discretion of the Corporation would not be interfered with. It is only desired to empower the Corporation, when the opportunity occurs, to use such surplus cash as might be available to purchase and cancel their debentures, in the manner I have stated, after the Commissioners have had free scope to utilize the money in such manner as they might think fit.

Before I close my remarks I will comment on the references I have heard made to the 'depletion' of the Sinking Fund, and to the necessity for holding in the Sinking Fund the investments made out of the monies of that fund, described as 'liquid assets,' to be ready for realization to provide funds for the redemption of debentures on due date. A misconception underlies each of these ideas.

A Sinking Fund before maturity can never be said to become 'depleted' by reason of the cancellation of debentures held in the Sinking Fund. If debentures in the fund are cancelled, although put out of circulation, the paper cancelled does not become worthless, because by cancellation the principal amount due on the debenture cancelled is repaid, and one of the conditions of such cancellation is that the loan charges on that amount cancelled shall continue to be paid into the Sinking Fund."

The Hon'ble MR. PAYNE said :—

"Is not Mr. Apcar speaking on the first part of his amendment?"

The Hon'ble MR. APCAR, continuing, said :—

"The Hon'ble Member is quite correct in checking me. In the hurry of my statement, I have not kept the distinction clear at the moment in referring to the Sinking Fund. Of course where there is the complete extinction of the debt itself, there will be no interest to pay on the amount given for the purchase of a debenture. These powers that I desire, I think, are very necessary to us, because the Corporation hold on occasions large amounts of cash balances. It may very well happen that no loan is to be issued for a period. The opportunity will then be given for the cancellation of these debentures, and the Municipal fund can then be fully used for such a purpose. Even then it will not be used except, in the first instance, with the sanction of the Corporation, who will have full discretion to decide what amount is available for the cancellation of these debentures. If they are willing to allow them to be used, I think it is the proper method of using their cash balances. When they have large amounts paid into their funds from the proceeds of the sale of lands, I submit the best method would be not to return it to rate-payers of any one year by the reduction of rates, when perhaps rate-payers who have not contributed towards the payment

for the land will benefit, but to spread the benefit over as large a field as possible by the cancellation of debentures in the manner proposed in my amendment."

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON said :—

"The object of the Hon'ble Member in putting this amendment is that that Corporation may be allowed the purchase of Municipal debentures for extinction and cancellation from time to time out of the sale-proceeds of any land or other undertaking belonging to the Corporation, or out of any other available funds, which may in the opinion of the Corporation be not required at an early date. That is sufficiently wide to give them power to purchase with money out of the loan fund, which may not be required to be applied at an early date. That of course the Hon'ble Member did not mean, and of course he will agree that it is impossible to agree to an amendment that is wide enough to include that. Taking the sale-proceeds of lands and other available revenue funds, there is no necessity for anything in the Bill to give the Corporation power to buy debentures out of that money. They have the power already and they do invest their surplus funds in their own debentures. The only point is the Hon'ble Member wishes to give them power to extinguish them when they have bought them. What is the effect of that? In the first place the Corporation continue to pay Sinking Fund charges under clause 136 of the Bill. There is no provision for adjusting the Sinking Fund payments and such adjustment would be a complicated proceeding.

At the end of the period when a loan matures, the rate-payers of the Corporation of that date will receive a bonus of the amount, which the Corporation now pay off. The Corporation will now save themselves from paying interest, and the saving will be a present for the rate-payers of 20 years hence. I would not personally object to that, but it is rather against the Hon'ble Member's previous arguments. What is really gained by cancelling the debentures? The municipality have the power of using these debentures again. Why should they not keep it? By cancelling, they do not save the Sinking Fund charge. If the debentures are not cancelled, they simply pay the interest from revenue to revenue; they pay by book debit; they pay to themselves; and at the same time they have got these securities. The cash balance is now high, but we do not know if the Corporation may not be in a very tight corner in a few years' time. Why should the rate-payers now forego the benefit of this reserve cash balance in order to benefit those who come after 20 years? At present, if they have got their debentures in existence, they put them on the market without going to the Government of India for a new loan and raise the money in an emergency. It seems to me that it is really more advantageous to the Corporation to keep their own money in an investment, which they can realise, rather than lock it up entirely for the sole benefit of future generations."

The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR said:—

"My Lord, I may inform the Council that when this question was raised in the Corporation by the Hon'ble Mr. Apcar, it was opposed by a considerable section of the Commissioners, and although it was carried by a majority, the majority was very small. The question however was raised almost at the last moment and it could not be discussed at a full meeting.

The disadvantage arising from the proposal of the Hon'ble Mr. Apcar has been well explained by the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill. At present, my Lord, the practice is so simple that there is no difficulty in utilizing the sale-proceeds of surplus lands, and, if we are so inclined, to utilize the surplus cash balance, whether of Revenue or Capital Funds, for the purpose of works to be carried out of borrowed funds. If we estimate that 40 lakhs of rupees are required to be spent in the ensuing year on account of works to be carried out of loan funds, and if we find that 10 lakhs

are available from sale of surplus lands and cash balance in the Capital Fund, we set off that amount against the total amount spent on loan works, and we borrow with the sanction of Government 30 lakhs of rupees.

Then, my Lord, as far as I understand, this motion will also apply to the Revenue cash balance. As has been explained by the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill the Revenue cash balance of one year would have to be carried down for the benefit of posterity, and the very principle in support of which the Hon'ble Member has been fighting is against this. It will accelerate the repayment of the loans before the period they are due. I think, my Lord, this motion should not be accepted by the Council."

The Hon'ble MR. APCAR said:—

"My Lord, there is a misapprehension in respect of my amendment. The money to be utilized can be only out of the Municipal funds which is distinct from loan funds. And when the debenture is extinguished the Corporation would not continue to make the annual contribution on the amount of the debenture cancelled, and it is provided specifically that the dividend and interest will also cease to be paid. Why should it not be at the discretion of the Corporation to utilize in this way any small amount remaining in the cash balance which may not be required for other purposes? I am wholly unable to follow the idea of any inconsistency on my part in proposing the amendment. I think that was sufficiently touched upon in a late Corporation meeting, not to have the same arguments reproduced now. My objection is, and always has been, that those who are not benefiting from any work should not be made to pay for its cost. Here with the extinction all payments cease, and there is nothing but benefit; there is no injury, no prejudice to anyone, and if the debentures are extinguished, the payment of interest stops. There is no question of accelerating any loans or prejudice to anybody. The whole question again is not understood. We hear a good deal when the Corporation are against any measure, and it is made much of. But when the Corporation are in favour of a measure, why should not that be taken into account? My Lord, this is a very useful power to give to the Corporation to exercise at their option, and I ask that it be granted to them.

New clause 141 AAA (*2*), as proposed by the Hon'ble Mr. Apcar, was then put to the vote and lost.

The Hon'ble Member then withdrew his proposal as to the insertion of a new clause 141 AAAA, which formed the third portion of his amendment.

The following motion was also, by leave of the President, withdrawn :—

List of Amendments—Motion No. 73 B. The Hon'ble Mr. Apcar to move that the following words be added at the end of clause 141 AA (*3*). [now section 141B (3)] namely, 'save and except when any debenture is cancelled under section 141 AAA.'"

ADJOURNMENT.

The Council then adjourned to the next day, Thursday, the 15th January, 1914, at 11 A.M.

CALCUTTA ;
The 10th February, 1914.

A. W. WATSON,
Secretary to the Bengal Legislative Council.

B. S. Press—7-3 1914—3499J—500—G. D.

Abstract of the Proceedings of the Bengal Legislative Council assembled under the provisions of the Indian Councils Acts, 1861, 1892 and 1909, and the Government of India Act, 1912.

THE Council met in the Council Chamber in Government House on Thursday, the 15th January, 1914, at 11 A.M.

Present :

His Excellency the Right Hon'ble THOMAS DAVID BARON CARMICHAEL OF SKIRLING, G.C.I.E., K.C.M.G., Governor of the Presidency of Fort William in Bengal, *presiding*.

The Hon'ble SIR FREDERICK WILLIAM DUKE, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., *Vice-President*.

The Hon'ble MR. P. C. LYON, C.S.I.

The Hon'ble NAWAB SYED SHAMS-UL-HUDA.

The Hon'ble MR. C. J. STEVENSON-MOORE, C.V.O.

The Hon'ble MR. J. LANG.

The Hon'ble MR. J. G. CUMMING, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. B. K. FINNIMORE.

The Hon'ble MR. J. H. KERR, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. H. L. STEPHENSON, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. H. F. SAMMAN.

The Hon'ble MR. B. C. MITRA.

The Hon'ble MR. W. W. HORNELL.

The Hon'ble MR. C. F. PAYNE.

The Hon'ble MR. B. B. NEWBOULD.

The Hon'ble RAI PRIYA NATH MUKHARJI BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble MR. A. N. MOBERLY.

The Hon'ble MR. H. J. HILARY.

The Hon'ble NAWAB SIR KHWAJA SALIMULLAH BAHADUR, G.C.I.E., K.C.S.I.

The Hon'ble DR. NILRATAN SIRCAR.

The Hon'ble MR. R. GLEN.

The Hon'ble MR. E. A. MARTIN.

The Hon'ble MR. BYOMKES CHAKRAVARTI.

The Hon'ble SIR BIJAY CHAND MAHTAB, K.C.S.I., K.C.I.E., I.O.M., Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan.

The Hon'ble RAJA SHOSHI KANTA ACHARYYA CHAUDHURI BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble DR. DEBA PRASAD SARBADHIKARI.

The Hon'ble MR. J. G. APCAR.

The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble MR. NORMAN MCLEOD.

The Hon'ble MR. J. C. SHORROCK.

The Hon'ble MR. W. T. GRICE.

The Hon'ble MR. V. WOODS.

The Hon'ble MR. A. W. C. CHAPLIN.

The Hon'ble MR. GOLAM HOSSEIN CASSIM ARIFF.

The Hon'ble MAULVI MUSHARRAF HUSAIN.

The Hon'ble MAULVI A. K. FAZ-UL-HAQ.

The Hon'ble NAWAB SAIYID HOSSAM HAIDER CHAUDHURI, KHAN BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble RAI NALINAKSHA BASU BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble NAWAB SAIYID NAWAB ALI CHAUDHURI, KHAN BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble BABU PRASANNA KUMAR RAY.

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI.

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH RAY.

The Hon'ble BABU MAHENDRA NATH RAY.

The Hon'ble RAI HARI MOHAN CHANDRA BAHADUR

The Hon'ble BABU UPENDRA LAL RAY.

[*Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur; Mr. Byomkes Chakravarti.*]

CALCUTTA MUNICIPAL (LOANS) BILL, 1914.

The discussion on the Calcutta Municipal (Loans) Bill was resumed.

The following motions were, by leave of the President, withdrawn :—

New clause 141 AAA.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 74. The Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur to move that, after clause 141 AA [now section 141 B], the following be inserted, namely :—

"141 AAA. The Corporation may, before the due date of repayment, cancel any municipal debenture held in the Sinking Fund, and, on such cancellation, the debt, to the extent of the nominal value of such debenture, shall be deemed to be extinguished :

Power of Corporation to cancel municipal debentures held in the Sinking Fund.

Provided that when—

(*a*) any debenture is so cancelled, or

(*b*) any portion of the Sinking Fund is applied towards the repayment of any debenture at any due date or in exercise of borrowing powers sanctioned by the Government of India,

the Corporation shall continue to pay into the Sinking Fund half-yearly interest at the rate prescribed in section 136 (*2*) for the unexpired term of the loan in respect of which the debenture was issued."

List of Amendments—Motion No. 74 A. The Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur to move that, after clause 141 AA [now section 141 B], the following be inserted, namely :—

"141 AAA. The Corporation may, before the due date of repayment, cancel any municipal debenture held in the Sinking Fund, and, on such cancellation the debt, to the extent of the nominal value of such debenture, shall be deemed to be extinguished :

Power of Corporation to cancel municipal debentures held in the Sinking Fund.

Provided that when any debenture is so cancelled, the Corporation shall continue to pay into the Sinking Fund half-yearly interest at the rate prescribed in section 136, sub-section (*2*), in addition to the half-yearly contribution which would have been paid into the Sinking Fund, for the unexpired term of the loan in respect of which the debenture so cancelled was issued had such debenture not been so cancelled."

Clause 141 B [now section 141 C].

List of Amendments—Motion No. 75. The Hon'ble Mr. Byomkes Chakravarti to move that, for the first four lines of clause 141 B [now section 141 C], the following be substituted, namely :—

"141 B. The Corporation shall not apply any portion of the Sinking Fund to any purpose other than the repayment of a loan or any part thereof."

[*Mr. Apcar; Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur; Mr. Stephenson.*]

Motions withdrawn—*contd.*

List of Amendments—Motion No. 76. The Hon'ble Mr. Apcar to move that, for the first four lines of clause 141 B [now section 141 C], the following be substituted, namely :—

"141 B. The Corporation shall not apply any portion of the Sinking Fund to any purpose other than the repayment of a loan or any part thereof."

List of Amendments—Motion No. 77. The Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur to move that, for the first four lines of clause 141 B [now section 141 C], the following be substituted, namely :—

"No money at credit of the Sinking Fund shall be applied to any purpose other than the discharge of any loan or part of a loan, provided that if, after the full discharge of any loan, there remains any surplus to its credit in the separate account kept in respect thereof under section 136 (*3*), such surplus may, with the previous sanction of the Local Government, be transferred from the Sinking Fund to the General Fund of the Corporation."

List of Amendments—Motion No. 77 A. The Hon'ble Mr. Stephenson moved that, for the existing provisos to clause 141 B [now section 141 C], the following be substituted, namely :—

"Provided that—

(*i*) when any loan, or part thereof, which was raised after the commencement of the Calcutta Municipal (Loans) Act, 1914, has been consolidated under section 140, the Corporation shall transfer to the Sinking Fund established for such consolidated loan the sum standing at credit of the Sinking Fund of the original loan, or, if part only of a loan has been consolidated, then such part of the sum standing at credit of the Sinking Fund of the original loan as is proportionate to the amount of the original loan which is incorporated in the consolidated loan ; and

(*ii*) when any loan, or part thereof, which was raised before the commencement of the Calcutta Municipal (Loans) Act, 1914, has been consolidated, the Corporation shall transfer such amounts as the Government of India may direct from the Sinking Fund maintained under section 138, clause (*1*), and from Sinking Fund A maintained before the commencement of the said Act to the Sinking Fund established for consolidated loans under section 140, sub-section (*4*)."

He said :—"The only difference between the motion that I move now and the Bill is that we have to alter the dates in consequence of the postponement of the Bill. Instead of referring to different dates we put in "after the commencement of the Calcutta Municipal (Loans) Act, 1914" and "before the commencement of the Calcutta Municipal (Loans) Act, 1914."

The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR said :—

"My Lord, I think it is intended that the amount to be transferred from the existing Sinking Fund shall be determined according to calculation and not as the Government of India might direct. I don't know if I shall be in order to suggest an amendment now. The Hon'ble mover may modify it."

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON said :—

"The Hon'ble Member was in the Select Committee when they adopted this. He has forgotten the discussion on the subject. The reason this wording was adopted is that the calculation was so intricate as to what amount should be transferred that the Select Committee decided that it was

[*Mr. Apcar; Mr. Byomkes Chakravarti; Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur.*]

no good trying to put it into the Bill, and that it would be better to have one ordinary provision which would cover all cases. It is certainly intended that the calculation should be made according to the principle enunciated in the Bill; that is to say, the amount which should have been in the Sinking Fund on that date will be transferred. They found difficulty in putting that into the Bill and the Select Committee, including the Hon'ble Member himself, decided to adopt the present wording."

The motion was then put and agreed to.

The following motions were, by leave of the President, withdrawn :—

List of Amendments—Motion No. 78. The Hon'ble Mr. Apcar to move that the words "Act Amendment" be substituted for the brackets and word "(Loans)" in clause 141 B [now section 141 C].

List of Amendments—Motion No. 79. The Hon'ble Mr. Apcar to move that the words and figures "separate account kept under section 141 AAAA (*1*)(*a*)" be substituted for the words "Sinking Fund established for such consolidated loan" in lines 4 and 5 of proviso (*i*) to clause 141 B [now section 141 C].

List of Amendments—Motion No. 80. The Hon'ble Mr. Byomkes Chakravarti to move that the words and figures "separate account kept under section 136 (*3*)" be substituted for the words "Sinking Fund established for such consolidated loan" in lines 4 and 5 of proviso (*i*) to clause 141 B [now section 141 C].

List of Amendments—Motion No. 81. The Hon'ble Mr. Apcar to move that the words "separate account" be substituted for the words "Sinking Fund" in line 6 of proviso (*i*) to clause 141 B [now section 141 C].

List of Amendments—Motion No. 82. The Hon'ble Mr. Apcar to move that the words and figures "separate account kept under section 141 AAAA (*1*)(*a*)" be substituted for the words "Sinking Fund" in lines 8 and 9 of proviso (*i*) to clause 141 B [now section 141 C].

List of Amendments—Motion No. 83. The Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur to move that the words and figures "separate account kept under section 136 (*3*)" be substituted for the words "Sinking Fund" in lines 8 and 9 of proviso (*i*) to clause 141 B [now section 141 C].

List of Amendments—Motion No. 84. The Hon'ble Mr. Apcar to move that the figures "136" be substituted for the words and figures "138, clause (*1*)" in line 6 of proviso (*ii*) to clause 141 B [now section 141 C], and that the words and figures "and from Sinking Fund A maintained before the commencement of the Calcutta Municipal (Loans) Act, 1914," in lines 6 to 8 of the same proviso, be omitted.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 85. The Hon'ble Mr. Byomkes Chakravarti to move that the figures "136" be substituted for the words and figures "138, clause (*1*)," in line 6 of proviso (*ii*) to clause 141 B [now section 141 C], and that the words and figures "and from Sinking Fund A maintained before the commencement of the Calcutta Municipal (Loans) Act, 1914," in lines 6 to 8 of the same proviso, be omitted.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 86. The Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur to move that the figures "136" be substituted for the words and figures "138, clause (*1*)," in line 6 of proviso (*ii*) to clause 141 B [now section 141 C], and that the words and figures "and from Sinking Fund A maintained before the commencement of the Calcutta Municipal (Loans) Act, 1914," in lines 6 to 8 of the same proviso, be omitted.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 87. The Hon'ble Mr. Apcar moved that the present clause 141 B [now section 141 C] be numbered 141 B (*1*) and that the following sub-clause be added at the end of that clause, namely :—

"(*2*) Notwithstanding anything contained in this section, the Corporation may, in its discretion, employ any portion of the Sinking Fund in the construction of works for which a loan has been sanctioned by Government under the provisions of this Act :

Provided that the Corporation shall continue to pay into the Sinking Fund, until the expiry of the prescribed period of such loan, the same half-yearly contribution that would have been payable to the said Fund if the money thus employed had been raised by the issue of debentures."

He said :—"This amendment, I must frankly confess, is not in the form in which I should prefer to see it. Indeed, it had escaped my memory until your Lordship called upon me to move it, that this amendment still retained its place in the Agenda after my amendment of yesterday evening had fallen through, on which I had relied for the power to apply the Sinking Fund instead of borrowing in the open market. I, however, will move the amendment because I think that certain questions underlie it which should be considered, and particularly I want an opportunity to say that I did not intentionally withdraw my amendment of the clause of which I had given notice in the agenda as clause 141A. I, of course, do not desire here to question any ruling of your Lordship, but I may be permitted to say that I had no idea of resiling from my position. I did not dream when I did not seek to press against the Hon'ble Member in charge, what I offered to him rather as a suggestion, namely, the mutation of clauses 141A to 128A, that I would be putting it out of my power to move the clause relating to the application of the Sinking Fund in the exercise of borrowing powers, a proposal which I always have considered among the most important among my amendments.

The last letter from the Government to the Corporation to which I before have drawn attention, dated the 1st of the present month of January, refers to the desire of the Corporation to obtain the power to utilise their Sinking Fund in the manner I have mentioned. I ask attention to paragraph 7 of that letter which commences as follows :—

'The next suggestion is that the Corporation should be specially empowerd to apply the Sinking Fund in exercise of its borrowing powers. No arguments are adduced in favour of this course, and it is practically admitted that the Corporation is able to attain the desired object by means of its existing powers to buy its own debentures and the power proposed to be given in the Bill for reserving a portion of loan debenture for the investment of Sinking Funds.'

It is very remarkable that arguments should be expected in asking for a power that has been so well known and so widely exercised for a long time in Great Britain. It is to be found in the Birmingham Water Act of 1892, in the St. Helen's Corporation Act of 1898 and has been carefully elaborated in the Birmingham Corporation Act of 1903 from where I took the terms of my amendment which most unfortunately I have been precluded from moving in our proceedings. It is to be found also in the Local Government Board Stock Regulation of 1901 both for Urban Districts and County Councils. These enactments I mention because I have them in my possession. But we know from the proceedings of the Select Committee of the House Customs in 1908 and 1909 how generally they had been adopted in local Acts of Municipal Corporations in Great Britain. It has been so greatly utilised that in the Corporation of Birmingham alone we find that from the year 1892 to 1909 the sum of £1,585,297 was so used out of Sinking Funds ; and if the Corporation of Glasgow had not utilised their Sinking Funds in the same manner, the Registrar of that Corporation writes to me that he calculates that they would have lost over a million of

money if they had invested their Sinking Funds. And yet a point is made to the circumstance that we had not advanced arguments in support of our request. If they are not known I submit that we should expect them to be known to the Government when undertaking such important legislation as the present one. And there is a very extraordinary misconception in the assertion that the Corporation practically admit that they are able to attain the desired object by means of its existing power to buy its own debentures. What in truth is admitted here is the principle, by the Government, that our Sinking Fund can be utilised; that goes a long way in our favour in argument, but it falls short of the power we seek. And it is still more remarkable that the Government should think that by giving the power to the Corporation to tender for their own debentures, they will be getting the power they seek. The main point in the desire of the Corporation for the power is that they need not, if it is granted to them, go into the market to borrow and they then would not need to issue fresh securities, and therefore would make a substantial saving owing to stamp duty not being payable. It would be well to have clearly before us the terms of the clause relied upon as giving us the same power as we seek. In clause 111 AA of the Bill power is given to reserve or set apart, with the sanction of the Government of India, any portion of the debentures to be issued on account of any loan, and sub-clause 2 runs as follows :—

> 'The issue of any such debentures to the Chairman as aforesaid shall not operate to extinguish or cancel such debentures, but every debenture so issued shall be valid in all respects as if issued to and in the name of any other person.'

It will therefore be seen that any portion of the debentures which may be reserved for the Corporation will be as if issued to any other person: that it must form a part of the issue of debentures and the debentures reserved must be regularly stamped exactly as debentures are stamped which are issued to the public. That power is wholly distinct from that for which I contend. The crux of the question is that in the power the Corporation want, no fresh securities will be issued, and no stamp duty will be payable on them and the Corporation. The utilisation of the monies of the Sinking Fund in the capital work of a Municipal Corporation is not depletion but investment, and the best form of investment for the Sinking Fund.

It must be perfectly clear that when monies are withdrawn from the Sinking Fund there is no injury done to the Sinking Fund because the equivalent of interest would continue to be contributed. Whenever monies are withdrawn from the Sinking Fund, in the manner we desire, we should remove from our minds the idea that the Sinking Fund is being depleted. It is not depletion of the Sinking Fund, but investment and the very best form of treatment of the monies of the Sinking Fund. This is quite well recognised in English practice, and I ask that some indulgence be permitted to me with regard to the remarks that I have heard made in this connection. Before maturity the Sinking Fund cannot be said to be depleted by reason of the utilization of the monies of the Sinking Fund in our capital works. If money is withdrawn or borrowed from the Sinking Fund, it is not dissipated but continues to earn the loan charges—that is, annual contribution and interest—on the money withdrawn. Loan charges are the only payments required for the complete repayment of a loan, principal and interest. Except the regular payment of loan charges, the Revenue Fund of a Municipal Corporation has no further liability in respect of money withdrawn or of debenture cancelled. And besides the regular receipt of loan charges, the Sinking Fund needs no further help from any quarter to repay loans at due date. The view that was expressed by the City Treasurer of the Birmingham Corporation before the Select Committee of the House of Commons in 1909 (he also represented the Association of Municipal Corporations before that Committee) was confirmed by all the other witnesses before the Select Committee who were connected with, or had any practical experience of, municipal administration :—

His view was as follows :—

"The security on which almost every lender of money to the Corporation relies—I speak from personal experience in negotiating many thousands of

loans, as well from a knowledge of the opinions of some of the leading Stock brokers of Birmingham—is the financial standing of the particular Corporation to which he lends money, or whose Stock he takes up, and it is my firm belief that he does not concern himself in the slightest degree as to the technicalities of Loan Funds or Sinking Funds or as to the book-keeping in connection therewith."

The Sinking Fund of the Calcutta Corporation, however, would be perfectly safe from any prejudice and the supervision of the Accountant-General would be a further guarantee. As to the security to the lender on debentures, by law and the express contract between him and the Corporation, it is the rates and taxes and fees leviable under the Act. The only objection I ever have heard attempted to be raised is that conditions are different here from England. In what are they different in this connection? The security we offer is abundantly sufficient. The procedure to be followed is quite simple. The supervision by the Accountant-General, it surely will not be denied by Government, is as effective as can be exercised by the Local Government Board in England. The only difficulty that I can trace is the want of familiarity by the authorities with a proceeding that is so well known. But when the procedure is so simple and the principle is expressly admitted by the Government, I submit that it would be a hardship to the Corporation to be debarred from receiving the power for which we ask."

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH RAY said :—

"I should like to say one word with reference to this amendment with the approval of the Government. I would wish to amend the words"—

The PRESIDENT said :—

"Order, order. I am afraid due notice is required to move any amendment, so it is improper for the Hon'ble Member to seek to move an amendment now without notice."

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH RAY :—

"Then I support this amendment of Mr. Apcar's because it may be that there will be a financial crisis in the Province and although we may have money in our own till we will not be able to utilise the money. We know full well that a few years ago when Mr. Greer was Chairman of the Corporation, he and Mr. Mukerji had to borrow money from the Bank of Bengal, Rs. 4 lakhs on their own personal securities. The time may come when we may have to face some such difficulties and having money in our own till we will not be able to utilise that money. It is when we are going to legislate in a matter that we should provide against all contingencies. It is simply to utilise monies in our own coffers that Mr. Apcar asks that this clause should be inserted. It may be with the sanction of Government that this money may be utilised, and it is for that reason that I wanted to put in that clause, but, if that is not accepted, the amendment as now put might be accepted."

The Hon'ble MR. APCAR said :—

"For my own part I cannot seriously press my amendment. I think it is defective in its terms and I intended to alter it to a more correct form. When I already have published in the agenda what I consider to be the correct form, I feel it would not be fair if I did not recognise that the present form was defective."

The motion was then, by leave of the President, withdrawn.

Clause 141C [now section 141 D].

List of Amendments—Motion No. 88. The Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur moved that the word "Chairman" be substituted for the word "Corporation" in line 1 of clause 141 C (*1*) [now section 141 D (*1*)].

He said :—

"This clause I believe requires the Corporation to prepare some Financial Statement. It says that "The Corporation shall at the end of every financial year prepare a statement." What I venture to submit to your Lordship is that this statement will have to be prepared by the Executive and I think the proper wording is "the Chairman shall." It is a simple verbal amendment and I do not think that the member in charge of the Bill has any objection."

[*Mr. Stephenson; Mr. Apcar; Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur.*]

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON said :—

"In framing the Bill the word "Corporation" was used because it is in accordance with statutory precedent in England that all statutory obligations should be placed on the Corporation and not on any officer of the Corporation. It has been brought to the notice of Government that in the case of the Calcutta Corporation the statutory functions are by the Calcutta Act divided between the Chairman and the Corporation. The Corporation therefore does not necessarily include the Chairman. They are two bodies and the main executive functions have been placed in the hands of the Chairman. In these circumstances Government is prepared to accept the amendment and place the onus on the Chairman."

The motion was then put and agreed to.

The following motions were, by leave of the President, withdrawn :—

Clause 141 E [now section 141F].

List of Amendments—Motion No. 89. The Hon'ble Mr. Apcar to move that the words "The Sinking Fund" be substituted for the words "All Sinking Funds" in line 1 of clause 141 E (*1*) [now section 141F(*1*)].

List of Amendments—Motion No. 90. The Hon'ble Mr. Apcar to move that the word "the" be substituted for the word "any" in line 1 of clause 141 E (*2*) [now section 141F(*2*)].

List of Amendments—Motion No. 91. The Hon'ble Mr. Apcar to move that the word "the" be substituted for the word "any" in line 2 of clause 141 E (*3*) [now section 141F(*3*)].

List of Amendments—Motion No. 91A. The Hon'ble Mr. Apcar to move that the word "any" be substituted for the word "all" at the commencement of line 1 of clause 141 E (*1*) [now section 141F(*1*)].

List of Amendments—Motion No. 91B. The Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur moved that the word "may" be substituted for the word "shall" in the penultimate line of clause 141 E (*3*) [now section 141 F (*3*)].

He said :—"My Lord, certain difficulties might arise as to the disposal of the surplus fund, and my amendment is aimed at guarding against those difficulties. I do not wish that it should be made obligatory upon the Corporation to transfer the excess sum to the General Fund. If it is a small sum it may remain there; if a large sum then it can be so transferred. And this should be left to the discretion of the Corporation. I do not think I need dilate upon the point any further, as it is only a small amendment."

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON said :—

"In the original Bill, the word was 'may.' In the Select Committee it was changed into "shall" as the Corporation expressly desired it to be. At that time the Trustees were in charge of the Sinking Fund, and it was felt possible that the Trustees might not exercise their discretion in the way that the Corporation desired. Therefore it was altered to 'shall.' But now, as the management of the Sinking Fund to be entirely under the Corporation, I think it is quite right that the section should be modified and that the word should be 'may.' I therefore accept the amendment."

The motion was then put and agreed to.

The following motion was, by leave of the President, withdrawn :—

List of Amendments—Motion No. 92. The Hon'ble Mr. Apcar to move that the word "Fund" be substituted for the word "Funds" in lines 2 and 4 of the proviso to clause 141 F [now section 141 G.].

List of Amendments—Motion No. 69A. The Hon'ble Mr. Stephenson, with the permission of His Excellency the President, moved that in the place

of Amendment No. 69 A, as passed in Council on the 14th January 1914, [see page 125] the words "for the purpose of investing any portion of its funds (including Sinking Funds)" be substituted, and be placed at the beginning of clause 141 AA [now section 141 B].

He said :—

The amendment of the Hon'ble Mr. Apcar in regard to this matter was accepted yesterday. But I am advised that from a drafting point of view that amendment is defective. I therefore propose a verbal modification, and I think the Council will accept it.

The Hon'ble MR. APCAR said :—

"I quite agree with the Hon'ble mover. I think the amendment now is in better form. My amendment was worded in the form that appears in the agenda as my mind was directed towards the possibility of the Corporation loans being consolidated and a Sinking Fund for it being required. I think the new form is much better."

The motion was then put and agreed to.

List of Business—Item No. 17. The Hon'ble Mr. Stephenson moved that the Secretary be directed to renumber the clauses and sub-clauses of the Bill in consecutive order, and to make corresponding alterations in all cross-references thereto.

The motion was put and agreed to.

List of Business—Item No. 18. The Hon'ble Mr. Stephenson moved that the Bill, as amended in Council, be passed.

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI said :—

"My Lord, I beg to call attention to clause (2) of rule 17 of our Legislative Business Rules.

My Lord, having regard to the importance of the Bill and the very serious amendments which have been made in it in Council, it seems to me that the Bill should not be passed at this stage, but that these amendments with the Bill should be published and then at the next meeting the Bill may be passed."

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON said :—

"I hope that Your Excellency will exercise your power of suspending this particular rule. The Hon'ble Member has given no reason why the passing of this Bill should be postponed."

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI said :—

"I have given reasons. I said that the Bill was very important."

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON said :—

"Postponing the passing of the Bill to the next meeting would serve no useful purpose whatever. We cannot discuss the Bill any further. It is now only a question of the passing of the Bill. No further discussion on it is permissible. It would be an unnecessary waste of time if we postpone the passing of the Bill."

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI said :—

"My Lord, may I be permitted to make a reply?"

The PRESIDENT said :—

"I am afraid not. We cannot enter upon a discussion of the rule to which the Hon'ble Member refers. I agree with the Hon'ble Mr. Stephenson that this is a case in which I may properly exercise my discretion to suspend the operation of the rule, and I now accordingly put the Hon'ble Mr. Stephenson's motion to the Council."

The motion was agreed to, and the Bill was accordingly passed.

[*Maulvi A. K. Faz-ul-Haq; Nawab Syed Shams-ul-Huda.*]

RESOLUTIONS.

(*Under the Rules for the discussion of matters* of general public interest.)

List of Business—Item No. 19. The Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Faz-ul-Haq moved the following Resolution :—

This Council recommends to the Governor in Council that—

(*i*) steps be taken to place specially selected Muhammadan Inspectors in charge of Muhammadan education in all the divisions of the Presidency, and

(*ii*) the orders recalling the special Inspectors in charge of Muhammadan education to general duty be withdrawn.

He said :—" My Lord, I may say at once that in moving this Resolution, I do not wish to advocate any system by which the educational problems of this country would be ticked off as pertaining to a particular community or that these various communities should be placed in close compartments in any matters that make for educational advancement and progress. Speaking for myself, my Lord, I confess that I have no faith in any policy of separatism of this kind. But I hope this Council will bear me out when I say that for some reason or other the Muhammadan community is far from being in line with the other advanced communities of this country and that they have required, and for some time to come will no doubt require, some help, encouragement and assistance in educational matters. My Lord, when His Excellency the Viceroy visited Dacca soon after the Durbar announcements it was pressed upon His Excellency's notice by a very large and influential deputation of the Muhammadan community of Eastern Bengal that one of the apprehensions of the Muhammadan community after the Durbar announcements was this, that in consequence of the reconstitution of this Presidency, there might be a setback in the educational advancement in the districts of East Bengal. His Excellency was pleased to give a pledge that, so far as possible, Government will take all possible steps to prevent any setback in this educational progress. I believe that, so far as the Muhammadan community is concerned, it is perhaps as a partial fulfilment of that pledge that a special officer has been appointed to look after Muhammadan education. But how far the appointment of this officer would push forward the cause of Muhammadan education I will not attempt to say. It is no use troubling the Council now by dilating on that point. But I think that officers should be appointed for inspection purposes who know local conditions, and it would not be difficult to find such men from the Muhammadan community. It may be that the arrangements which I propose may be of a tentative character. It may be that some time must elapse before the special officer comes to grapple with the situation and study local conditions, but till that time comes or until some other arrangements are made, I think the appointment of this special officer will be practically useless, unless he is assisted by specially qualified men knowing local conditions and necessities. For these reasons I move my resolution and I need not detain the Council any longer."

The Hon'ble NAWAB SYED SHAMS-UL-HUDA said :—

" My Lord, I desire to intervene in this somewhat early stage of the debate in the hope that it may effect a saving of the time of this Council. At the time when we considered the question of appointing a special officer for Muhammadan education, there were two special Inspectors in the two divisions of West Bengal, namely, Burdwan and Presidency. We thought that it would not be right that the special officer's work should be confined to East Bengal only, and that West Bengal should have the benefit of this special officer. In proposing the appointment of this officer we promised that the two special Inspectors in the Presidency and Burdwan Divisions would, after the appointment of this special officer, be absorbed in the general staff. Accordingly, when Mr. Taylor was appointed a special officer for Muhammadan education, these two officers were recalled from their special duty but this created a certain amount of uneasiness in the Muhammadan community and that sentiment was voiced in various ways. After carefully considering the

[*Maulvi A. K. Faz-ul-Haq; Babu Surendra Nath Ray; President; Mr. Apcar; Mr. McLeod.*]

"duties unless there were a few special inspecting officers to help him, at any rate for some time to come, and we have decided temporarily to appoint five inspecting officers in the five divisions of this Presidency. The appointment will be temporary, because we do not desire in any way to prejudice what is being done in the office of the Director of Public Instruction as regards the reorganization of the inspecting staff. Therefore, for the present, we have decided to appoint these five officers and I hope that this statement will satisfy my friend the Hon'ble mover of the resolution."

The Hon'ble MAULVI FAZ-UL-HAQ said :—

"My Lord, after what has fallen from the Hon'ble Member, I do not wish to press my resolution, because I have got practically all that I wanted."

The resolution was then, by leave of the President, withdrawn.

List of Business—Item No. 20. The moving of the following Resolution was postponed by the President, under rule 10 of the Resolution Rules, to the next meeting of the Council :—

The Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Ray to move the following Resolution :—

This Council recommends to the Governor in Council that the proposal to abolish the Engineering College at Sibpur be dropped, and that the said college be either retained at Sibpur, or, if its present site is considered unsuitable,—

(*i*) be removed to a suitable site in Calcutta or its immediate vicinity, or

(*ii*) be made a branch of the proposed Technological Institute in Calcutta.

The PRESIDENT said :—

"The Hon'ble Mr. Apcar has made a request to me to be allowed to make a personal explanation and I grant him leave to make that explanation."

The Hon'ble MR. APCAR said :—

"My Lord, I crave permission to make a personal explanation. I am very sorry to find that the Hon'ble Mr. McLeod is under the impression that I cast aspersions upon the credit of his firm and of the companies of which his firm are agents. The Hon'ble Sir William Duke was in the chair as President, when the incident occurred, and I feel sure that he will corroborate me that I did not say anything which was unparliamentary. It is difficult for me to understand how my words could bear the interpretation placed on them. However, my Lord, since the Hon'ble Mr. McLeod is under the impression I have mentioned, permit me to say that my reference to his firm and his companies was made in the course of an *argumentum ad absurdum* to meet an argument that had been advanced by him. If it is any satisfaction to him I can assure the Hon'ble Member that he is under a misapprehension. I certainly had no intention to disparage either the credit of his firm or that of his companies in any way.

My Lord, I would be ready to apologise for any mistake I may make. I cannot, however, undertake to apologise for any mistake supposed under a misapprehension to have been made. But I am ready to give an explanation to remove any such misapprehension, which I now very willingly do. And I hope that it is to my hon'ble friend's satisfaction."

The Hon'ble MR. MCLEOD said :—

"I have much pleasure in accepting the explanation which Mr. Apcar has made. There must of course be a good deal of give and take in this Council, but when a reference is made to matters outside the business of the Council, I do not think that it is quite permissible. However, I fully accept Mr. Apcar's explanation."

Adjournment.

The Council was adjourned to Friday, the 27th February, 1914, at 11 A.M.

CALCUTTA: A. W. WATSON.

The 10th February, 1914. *Secretary to the Bengal Legislative Council.*

Abstract of the Proceedings of the Bengal Legislative Council assembled under the provisions of the Indian Councils Acts, 1861, 1892 and 1909, and the Government of India Act, 1912.

THE Council met in the Council Chamber in Government House on Saturday, the 28th February, 1914, at 11 A.M.

PRESENT:

His Excellency the Right Hon'ble THOMAS DAVID, BARON CARMICHAEL OF SKIRLING, G.C.I.E., K.C.M.G., Governor of the Presidency of Fort William in Bengal, *presiding*.

The Hon'ble SIR FREDERICK WILLIAM DUKE, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., *Vice-President*.

The Hon'ble MR. P. C. LYON, C.S.I.

The Hon'ble NAWAB SYED SHAMS-UL-HUDA.

The Hon'ble MR. C. J. STEVENSON-MOORE, C.V.O.

The Hon'ble MR. F. J. MONAHAN.

The Hon'ble MR. J. G. CUMMING, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. B. K. FINNIMORE.

The Hon'ble MR. J. H. KERR, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. H. L. STEPHENSON, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. H. F. SAMMAN.

The Hon'ble MR. C. H. BOMPAS.

The Hon'ble MR. W. W. HORNELL.

The Hon'ble MR. C. F. PAYNE.

The Hon'ble RAI PRIYA NATH MUKHARJI BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble MR. A. N. MOBERLY.

The Hon'ble COL. G. F. A. HARRIS, C.S.I.

The Hon'ble MR. H. J. HILARY.

The Hon'ble NAWAB SIR KHWAJA SALIMULLAH BAHADUR, G.C.I.E., K.C.S.I.

The Hon'ble MR. S. P. SINHA.

The Hon'ble DR. NILRATAN SARKAR.

The Hon'ble RAJA HRISHIKESH LAHA, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. E. A. MARTIN.

The Hon'ble MR. BYOMKES CHAKRAVARTI.

The Hon'ble SIR BIJAY CHAND MAHTAB, K.C.S.I., K.C.I.E., I.O.M., Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan.

The Hon'ble RAJA SHOSHI KANTA ACHARYYA CHAUDHURI BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble DR. DEBA PRASAD SARBADHIKARI.

The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble MR. NORMAN McLEOD.

The Hon'ble MR. J. C. SHORROCK.

The Hon'ble MR. W. T. GRICE.

The Hon'ble MR. G. A. BAYLEY.

The Hon'ble MR. A. W. C. CHAPLIN.

The Hon'ble MR. GOLAM HOSSEIN CASSIM ARIFF.

The Hon'ble MAULVI MAZHARUL ANWAR CHAUDHURI.

The Hon'ble MAULVI A. K. FAZ-UL-HAQ.

The Hon'ble RAI NALINAKSHA BASU BAHADUR

The Hon'ble RAJA MAHENDRA RANJAN RAY CHAUDHURI.

The Hon'ble NAWAB SAIYID NAWAB ALI CHAUDHURI, KHAN BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI.

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH RAY.

The Hon'ble BABU MAHENDRA NATH RAY.

The Hon'ble RAI HARI MOHAN CHANDRA BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble BABU UPENDRA LAL RAY.

Questions and Answers.

[*Mr. Norman McLeod; Mr. Samman; Babu Surendra Nath Banerji; Mr. Stephenson.*]

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 1.

OATH OF ALLEGIANCE.

The Hon'ble Mr. Monahan and the Hon'ble Mr. Bayley made an oath of their allegiance to the Crown.

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 2.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS

by the Hon'ble MR. NORMAN McLEOD :—

* 1. (*a*) Has the attention of the Government been called to the quantity of tea, unfit for human consumption, which is now being sold in the Calcutta bazars and, if so, will the Government be pleased to state what steps have been taken, or are being taken, to prevent or restrict such sale ?

(*b*) If not, are the Government prepared to cause an inquiry to be made in the matter ?

The Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN replied :—

(*a*) & (*b*) "Government have received a representation on this matter. The question of the adequacy of the present provisions of the law to prevent the adulteration of food and drugs is at present under the consideration of Government and this matter will be considered at the same time."

by the Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI :—

* 2. (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state—

(*i*) the number of men now employed as appraisers in the Calcutta Customs Department, and

(*ii*) how many of them are Europeans and how many Indians ?

(*b*) Is it a fact that in the Bombay Customs Department there are 17 Indian appraisers out of a total of 24 ?

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON replied :—

(*a*). (*i*) & (*ii*) "There are 24 appraisers in the Calcutta Customs Department, of whom 3 are Indians and 21, Europeans or Anglo-Indians.

(*b*) Government have no recent information about the Bombay Customs Department, but in 1912 there were 17 Indian appraisers out of 25."

* 3. (*a*) Is it a fact that the Secretary of State, in his Despatch No. 102 Revenue, dated the 27th August, 1909, commented on the non-employment of Indians in the Appraising and Preventive establishments of the Calcutta Customs and called attention to the opinion expressed by the Public Service Commission of 1887 that there was no justifiable ground for the exclusion of candidates of any race from these branches of the Public Service ?

(*b*) Is it a fact that, during the term of Mr. Howard's incumbency as Collector of Customs, three Indians were appointed as appraisers as an experimental measure and proved, on the whole, quite satisfactory ?

(*c*) Is it a fact that the Bengal Government subsequently decided that, out of a total of 24 appraisers' posts, 8 at least should be reserved for

by the Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI :—*concld.*

Indians, and that the Collector of Customs was accordingly directed to appoint Indians and Europeans alternately until the maximum number of 8 Indians had been reached?

(*d*) Is it a fact that, just before this arrangement was directed to come into force, a European was appointed to the last vacancy and that he started on Rs. 500 a month instead of the usual initial salary?

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON replied :—

(*a*) "In the Despatch referred to, the Secretary of State commented on the non-employment of Indians in the Appraising and Preventive establishments of the Calcutta Customs and quoted the opinion of the Public Service Commission that 'there is no ground for the exclusion of qualified candidates of any race from the Appraisers' or Preventive branch of the Customs Service.'"

(*b*) Four Indians were appointed as appraisers. The work of one of these did not justify his confirmation, but the Board reported in 1912 that the other three had proved on the whole satisfactory.

(*c*) In 1912, Government decided that the Board should aim at appointing 8 Indians as appraisers, but it was left to the Board to decide on what principles they would appoint this number so as to preserve a proper proportion between Indians and Europeans at various stages of service.

(*d*) In 1913, a European was appointed as an expert appraiser, starting on a salary of Rs. 500 a month. This was in accordance with the orders of the Secretary of State that the Collector should be authorized to recruit, when necessary, experts on a pay higher than the initial pay of the service, subject to the condition that the number of officers so recruited does not at any time exceed eight."

Appointment of Indians as appraisers in the Calcutta Customs Department.

* 1. (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state—

(*i*) whether there is any appraiser due to retire during 1914, and

(*ii*) whether any extension or extensions have been given to any one of the existing staff?

If so, will the Government be pleased to state their names and the several periods of extensions granted to them?

(*b*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether it is intended to appoint an Indian to the next vacancy in the Appraisers' establishment?

(*c*) Will the Government be pleased to state when the maximum number of 8 Indian appraisers will be reached in the Calcutta Customs Establishment?

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON replied :—

(*a*), (*i*) & (*ii*) "Three appraisers, to whom extensions have already been granted, will retire during 1914 unless further extensions are granted.

Their names are—

Mr. Girard, who has been on extensions since October, 1910;
Mr. Battye, who is on one year's extension up to the 19th November, 1914;
Mr. Vanspall, who is on one year's extension up to the 24th April, 1914.

(*b*) The question of the next appointment as appraiser will be decided when a vacancy occurs.

(*c*) It is impossible to say when the number of 8 Indian appraisers will be reached, as this depends very largely on the extensions that may be given and on the necessity that may arise for recruiting experts."

[*Rai Hari Mohan Chandra Bahadur: Mr. Cumming: Mr. Samman: Babu Surendra Nath Ray.*]

by the Hon'ble RAI HARI MOHAN CHANDRA BAHADUR :—

* 5. Is it a fact that the Government are considering the question of granting officiating promotion to members of the Provincial Civil Service in the same way that such promotion is given to members of the Indian Civil Service?

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The Hon'ble MR. CUMMING replied :—

"The answer is in the negative. The Hon'ble Member is referred to the speech of the Hon'ble Sir Reginald Craddock in the Imperial Council on the 16th January, 1914."

* 6. (*a*) Is it a fact that, when officers of the Executive Branch of the Provincial Civil Service are reported against by local officers, they are not given copies of such reports for their information?

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(*b*) If so, are the Government taking any steps to ensure that, when a report is made against any such officer, copies of the report may be forwarded to him to enable him to clear himself if he so desires?

The Hon'ble MR. CUMMING replied :—

(*a*) "The existing orders on the subject are that wherever benefit may result from communicating an unfavourable report, or where fairness demands its communication, the officer reported on is informed of the contents of the report.

(*b*) The subject of the communication of unfavourable reports to subordinate officers is under consideration, and Government are not in a position to make any statement."

* 7. (*a*) Have the Government received a memorial from certain rate-payers and others of the Darjeeling Municipality praying for the introduction of the elective system in that Municipality?

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(*b*) If so, will the Government be pleased to state what action (if any) they have taken or are taking with regard thereto?

The Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN replied :—

(*a*) & (*b*) "Government have received an advance copy of a memorial on this subject and are awaiting the receipt of the original memorial with the report of the Divisional Commissioner."

by the Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH RAY :—

* 8. (*a*) Is it a fact that the votes recorded at elections to Local Boards usually fall far short of the number of the voters on the voting list?

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(*b*) If so, have Government considered whether this result is due to the paucity of voting centres in each subdivision, and to the fact that voters have ordinarily to travel long distances for the purpose of recording their vote?

(*c*) If so, will the Government be pleased to state whether they are taking any steps to increase the number of voting centres within each subdivision?

The Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN replied :—

(*a*), (*b*) & (*c*) "Government have no definite information to enable them to answer the Hon'ble Member's question. They will inquire into the matter, and, if they find that the necessity for increasing the number of polling stations exists, they will give the question their careful consideration.

[*Babu Surendra Nath Ray; Mr. Samman; Nawab Saiyid Nawab Ali Chaudhuri, Khan Bahadur; Mr. Finnimore; Babu Surendra Nath Banerji.*]

by the Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH RAY—

Compulsory manual training in schools.

* 9. (*a*) Have the Government received a memorial from Babu Manmatha Kumar Bose, of Krishnagar, regarding the introduction of compulsory manual training in schools?

(*b*) If so, what action (if any) have Government taken in the matter?

The Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN replied :—

"Government have received the memorial in question and have transferred it to the Director of Public Instruction for disposal."

by the Hon'ble NAWAB SAIYID NAWAB ALI CHAUDHURI, KHAN BAHADUR :—

Obstruction in the river Banar in the Jamalpur subdivision of the Mymensingh District.

* 10. (*a*) Are the Government aware that the river Banar, in the Jamalpur subdivision of the Mymensingh district, has been blocked by the construction of a District Board road and of the Narayanganj-Jagannathganj Railway line, near its junction with the Brahmaputra?

(*b*) Are the Government aware that the residents of the locality petitioned for the removal of this obstruction?

(*c*) Have Government made any inquiry into the matter? If so, what is the result of that inquiry?

(*d*) If the statements mentioned in the said petition have been found to be well founded, what action has been or is being taken by Government in the matter?

The Hon'ble MR. FINNIMORE replied :—

(*a*) & (*b*) "The answer is in the affirmative.

(*c*) Government have made inquiries and are now awaiting a reply from the Eastern Bengal State Railway authorities and the Superintending Engineer, Eastern Circle, on references made to them on the subject.

(*d*) Until a reply has been received from the Railway authorities, no definite pronouncement can be made on the subject."

by the Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI :—

Multiplicity of text-books in the lower classes of the public secondary schools.

* 11. (*a*) Has the attention of the Government been drawn to the complaint relating to the multiplicity of text-books in the lower classes of the public secondary schools in the Presidency and Burdwan Divisions?

(*b*) Are the Government taking any action in the matter?

The Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN replied :—

(*a*) & (*b*) "The Hon'ble Member is referred to the answer to Question No. 1 (*c*) asked by the Hon'ble Maulvi Abul Kasem on the 17th March, 1913."

Prevention of malaria in Bengal.

* 12. Will the Government be pleased to state what measures (if any) have been adopted, and with what results, for the prevention of malaria in Bengal during the present financial year?

[*Mr. Samman: Mr. Cumming: Nawab Saiyid Hossam Haider Chaudhuri, Khan Bahadur.*]

The Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN replied :—

"The following measures were adopted :—

(1) Thirty sub-assistant surgeons and one assistant surgeon as supervisor were employed during the fever season in the districts noted below to afford medical aid and to distribute quinine free of charge in malaria-stricken areas :—

Nadia.	Hooghly.
Jessore.	Darjeeling.
Murshidabad.	Malda.

Twenty-seven sub-assistant surgeons were also deputed to the districts in the Burdwan Division (viz., Burdwan, Midnapore, Hooghly, Serampore, Howrah and Birbhum) which lately suffered from floods. These officers were also partially employed on quinine distribution and the treatment of malaria cases.

(2) Three assistant surgeons have been employed to give lectures on malaria in schools and colleges.

(3) One assistant surgeon and five sub-assistant surgeons are on duty in the Western Duars in Jalpaiguri in connection with anti-malarial operations.

(4) For popularising quinine, almanacs containing a leaflet on malaria and its cure were printed and widely distributed in all districts.

All these measures were generally appreciated, and have proved beneficial."

* 13. (*a*) Is it a fact that an experiment in the direction of the separation of Executive and Judicial functions is being made in some districts in Bengal? Ex Ju

(*b*) Will the Government be pleased to state the nature of the experiment?

The Hon'ble MR. CUMMING replied :—

"The answer is in the negative."

by the Hon'ble NAWAB SAIYID HOSSAM HAIDER CHAUDHURI, KHAN BAHADUR :—

* 14. Will the Government be pleased to state whether they are taking any action to curtail the number of text-books prescribed for use in the lower classes of high English schools, and to secure that only simple language is used in them? S the stu low hig sch

The Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN replied :—

"The Hon'ble Member is referred to the answer to Question No. 1 (*c*) asked by the Hon'ble Maulvi Abul Kasem on the 17th March, 1913."

* 15. Are the Government aware that the present hostel arrangements for the accommodation of Muhammadan college students in the town of Calcutta are insufficient, and are they taking any action for the construction of a hostel for Muhammadan students similar to the Hindu Hostel in College Square? C a Mub stud Cale

[*Mr. Samman; Rai Nalinaksha Basu Bahadur; Nawab Saiyid Nawab Ali Chaudhuri, Khan Bahadur.*]

The Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN replied :—

"Government are aware that the present hostel accommodation for Muhammadan college students is insufficient and are fully alive to the increasing necessities for additional accommodation for such students. A sum of Rs. 91,000 has already been set aside for the addition of a wing to the Baker Madrasa Hostel to accommodate Muhammadan students of the Presidency College, and grants have been made to other colleges subject to the condition that one-fifth of the seats in the hostel should be reserved for Muhammadans. Further accommodation is still necessary, especially for the Presidency College and the University Law College; but the amount that will be required for the former depends largely on another question which is at present engaging the attention of Government, viz., the establishment of an Arts college for Muhammadans on the site of the present Madrasa."

by the Hon'ble RAI NALINAKSHA BASU BAHADUR :—

Proposed conversion of the High English School at Burdwan into a Government Zilla School.

* 16. Will the Government be pleased to state whether they are considering the expediency of converting the existing High English School at Burdwan into a Government Zilla School or of raising it to the standard of a Government school in every respect?

The Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN replied :—

"The question is not at present under the consideration of Government."

by the Hon'ble NAWAB SAIYID NAWAB ALI CHAUDHURI, KHAN BAHADUR :—

Improvement of Muhammadan education.

* 17. Will the Government be pleased to state—

(*i*) the amount out of the Imperial grant of 75 lakhs that has been set apart in next year's Educational Budget for the improvement of Muhammadan education;

(*ii*) the amount of non-recurring grant earmarked for that purpose; and

(*iii*) whether schemes for the advancement of Muhammadan education have been drawn up and matured with a view to their being financed in the next official year; and, if so, what these schemes are?

The Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN replied :—

"The subject to which the Hon'ble Member's question relates will be fully dealt with by the Director of Public Instruction when dealing with Educational expenditure at the time of the presentation of the Financial Statement next month. Government are not prepared to anticipate this statement."

The Dacca University.

* 18. Will the Government be pleased to state—

(*i*) when the Dacca University Scheme is likely to be launched; and

(*ii*) when the preliminary arrangements for the Dacca University will be taken in hand and what the nature of the preliminary work will be?

[*Mr. Samman; Maulvi Musharraf Husain; Mr. Kerr.*]

The Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN replied :—

"The Hon'ble Member is referred to the answer given to Question No. 3 asked by the Hon'ble Maharaja Manindra Chandra Nandi in the Imperial Legislative Council on the 3rd February, 1914. The Hon'ble Sir Harcourt Butler said that the Secretary of State had expressed his general approval of the Dacca University Scheme, but that his orders regarding detailed features of the scheme had not been received. He stated further that it would be necessary to undertake legislation, but that it was impossible to state when such legislation would be introduced.

Government have taken in hand the preparation of detailed plans and estimates for all the buildings involved in the scheme prepared by the Dacca University Committee, and are also examining the scheme in detail with a view to drafting regulations and framing the necessary legislation. It is impossible to foretell with any accuracy when the scheme is likely to be launched."

* 19. (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state when they intend to give effect to the Madrasa Reform Scheme?

(*b*) Is it not a fact that the Dacca University Committee recommended that a European officer should be engaged at an early stage to take up the question of the reform of the madrasas in the matter of preparing pupils for the Department of Islamic Studies of the Dacca University?

(*c*) If so, will the Government be pleased to state what steps (if any) they have taken in the matter?

The Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN replied :—

(*a*) "The scheme is at present under the consideration of the Director of Public Instruction who will submit it shortly for the orders of Government.

(*b*) & (*c*) No such recommendation was made by the Dacca University Committee, but Government are aware of the importance of dealing with the question at an early date, in order to facilitate the initiation of the Department of Islamic Studies in the Dacca University and will endeavour to introduce such reforms as may be determined upon with the least possible delay."

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

by the Hon'ble MAULVI MUSHARRAF HUSAIN :—

I.—(*a*) Will the Government be pleased to furnish a statement showing, district by district, the total number of tenure-holders—

(*i*) in the districts in which settlement operations have been completed, and

(*ii*) in the districts in which settlement is still going on?

(*b*) Will the Government be pleased to furnish a similar statement showing the number of Muhammadan and non-Muhammadan tenure-holders in those districts?

The following answer by the Hon'ble MR. KERR was laid on the table :—

(*a*) (*i*) "A statement giving the information desired is laid on the table.

(*ii*) Figures are not yet available.

(*b*) No statistics on the subject are available, and the compilation of such statistics would entail an amount of labour and expenditure which would not, in the opinion of Government, be justified by the results to be obtained."

[*Rai Hari Mohan Chandra Bahadur; Mr. Kerr; Mr. G. H. C. Ariff.*]

Statement referred to in the Answer by the Hon'ble Mr. Kerr to Question No. 2 (unstarred) asked by the Hon'ble Maulvi Musharraf Husain at the Council Meeting of the 28th February, 1914, showing the number of tenures in districts in which settlement operations have been completed.

District	Number of tenures according to settlement records
Bakarganj	356,933
Chittagong	129,909

by the Hon'ble RAI HARI MOHAN CHANDRA BAHADUR :—

Appointments to the grade of District Sub-Registrars.

II.—Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing how many appointments to the grade of District Sub-Registrars have been made by them since the reconstitution of the Presidency, and how many of those appointments are held by Hindus and how many by Muhammadans?

The following answer by the Hon'ble MR. KERR was laid on the table :—

"Since the creation of the Presidency of Bengal on 1st April, 1912, four appointments have been made to the grade of District Sub-Registrars. Of the officers appointed, one was a Hindu and three were Muhammadans."

by the Hon'ble MR. G. H. C. ARIFF :—

Mode of filling vacancies in the Registration Department

III.—(*a*) Is it a fact that in the Dacca, Chittagong and Rajshahi Divisions every alternate vacancy in the Registration Department is filled by the appointment of a Muhammadan probationer, while in the Burdwan and Presidency Divisions Muhammadan probationers are selected for such appointments only on the occurrence of every third vacancy?

(*b*) Will the Government be pleased to state the reason for this difference in the rules?

The following answer by the Hon'ble MR. KERR was laid on the table :—

(*a*) "The ordinary practice is as stated, but Government decide on the occurrence of each vacancy to which class of the community, if any, nominations should be allotted.

(*b*) The proportion of appointments in the Registration Department allotted to Muhammadans in different parts of the Presidency has been fixed with reference to considerations of population and educational progress."

The Barrackpore Government School.

IV.—Will the Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of Muhammadan students at present attending the Barrackpore Government School;

(*b*) the amount spent on the construction of the hostel for the Hindu students of the said school; and

(*c*) whether there is any hostels for Muhammadan students attached to the said school?

(*d*) If no such hostel exists, whether the construction of any such hostel is under consideration and, if so, when is it expected to be ready?

[*Mr. Samman: Babu Surendra Nath Banerji: Mr. Samman: Mr. G. H. C. Ariff.*]

The following answer by the Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN was laid on the table :—

(*a*) "The present number on the roll is 24. The average number for the last 12 months is 27·1.

(*b*) The amount spent was Rs 14,285, which includes Rs. 1,955 on account of the cost of quarters for the superintendent of the hostel.

(*c*) The answer is in the negative.

(*d*) The question of the advisability of constructing a hostel has recently been raised and is under consideration."

by the Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI :—

V.—Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a scheme showing in detail how the Imperial Educational grants of Rs. 75 lakhs and Rs. 3·20 lakhs, respectively, the distribution of which was to be governed by the terms of the Resolution accepted by Government in this Council on the 4th April, 1913, have been actually allotted?

The following answer by the Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN was laid on the table :—

"The information asked for by the Hon'ble Member will be supplied by the Director of Public Instruction in the course of his speech introducing the Educational portion of the Financial Statement for 1914-15."

by the Hon'ble MR. G. H. C. ARIFF :—

VI.—(*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that they have decided to reserve a certain proportion of the vacancies annually occurring in the Bengal Secretariat and attached offices for Muhammadans?

(*b*) If so, will the Government be pleased to state what the number of such annual vacancies is to be?

(*c*) Have the Government, in any case, when filling such vacancies, called upon the principal Muhammadan Associations of, or any leading Muhammadans resident in, the Presidency to furnish the names of suitable candidates?

The following answer by the Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON was laid on the table :—

(*a*) "The rules provide for the appointment of Muhammadans ordinarily to every fourth vacancy in the Upper and Lower Division of the Secretariat establishment.

(*b*) The number of annual vacancies is not fixed but depends on casualties.

(*c*) Associations and individuals have not been consulted in filling these vacancies, because the rules provide that appointments for the Upper Division shall be made from candidates from the yearly nominations of Commissioners of Divisions and others for the Provincial Executive Service, the Police Service or the Subordinate Civil Service. In the case of the Lower Division the appointments are made from those who have passed the clerkship examination. Where there are no qualified candidates the rules provide for selection after advertisement of the appointment."

VII.—Are the Government aware that, on the 19th October, 1913, the Commissioners of the South Barrackpore Municipality, at a meeting, recommended the division of that Municipality into two, as suggested by the Sanitary Department, Bengal, and approved by the Hon'ble Mr. J. G. Cumming, the then Commissioner of the Presidency Division? If so, will the Government be pleased to state what action is being taken on that recommendation?

[*Mr. Samman; Mr. Finnimore; Maulvi A. K. Faz-ul-Haq.*]

The following answer by the Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN was laid on the table :—

"Government have not yet received any copy of the resolution passed by the Commissioners of the South Barrackpore Municipality on the 19th October, 1913. It is understood that the matter is still under the consideration of the local officers."

Proposed construction of overhead bridges on the Eastern Bengal State Railway.

VIII.—(*a*) Have the Government any information with regard to the proposed construction of overhead bridges for pedestrian and vehicular traffic on the Eastern Bengal State Railway line between Belgharia and Barrackpore?

(*b*) Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing the number of accidents which have occurred between Barrackpore and Titagarh since the quadrupling of the line?

The following answer by the Hon'ble MR. FINNIMORE was laid on the table :—

(*a*) "The matter has not yet been brought to the notice of this Government, but the necessity for these overhead bridges is recognised by the Railway administration, and the question of the apportionment of the cost between the Eastern Bengal State Railway and the local bodies who own the roads is under the consideration of the Government of India.

(*b*) The statement asked for is laid on the table."

Statement referred to in the Answer by the Hon'ble Mr. Finnimore to Question No. VIII (unstarred), asked by the Hon'ble Mr. G. H. C. Ariff at the Council meeting of the 28th February, 1914, showing the number of accidents which have occurred since the quadrupling of the line, between Barrackpore and Titagarh (inclusive).

While attempting to cross the line						Other accidents.												
Passengers		Trespassers		Railway servants.		Passengers.		Trespassers.		Railway servants.		Jumping or falling from trains in motion.		Suicides		Cattle accidents.		Train accidents of all descriptions.
1		2		3		4		5		6		7		8		9		10
Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.			
1	...	..	2	...	1	...	...	2	1	...	...	2	1	1*	...	9 cases.	...	One case of engine failure (minor).

* A railway servant.

by the Hon'ble MAULVI A. K. FAZ-UL-HAQ :—

Connecting Barisal with Calcutta by railway.

IX.—(*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether it is proposed to connect Barisal with Calcutta by any system of railways?

(*b*) If so, what will be the proposed route, and how far has the work progressed?

The following answer by the Hon'ble MR. FINNIMORE was laid on the table :—

(*a*) "Such a proposal is before Government at present.

(*b*) A reconnaissance survey for a railway connecting Barisal with Calcutta has been carried out. The Agent, Eastern Bengal State Railway, has been instructed by the Railway Board to have a detailed survey of the

[*Mr. Cumming; Maulvi A. K. Faz-ul-Haq; Babu Surendra Nath Banerji; Mr. Samman.*]

alignment made and a grant has been given for that purpose. Pending the result of this detailed survey it is not possible to say what route will be followed. An application has already been made to the Railway Board by a private firm for a concession to construct a railway in this area."

X.—Will the Government be pleased to state—

(*i*) how many Sub-Deputy Collectors were promoted to the rank of Deputy Collectors this year (*i.e.*, at the time of the last selection of promotion); and

(*ii*) how many Muhammadan Sub-Deputy Collectors were so promoted?

Promotion of Sub-Deputy Collectors.

The following answer by the Hon'ble Mr. CUMMING was laid on the table:—

(*i*) & (*ii*) "Six Sub-Deputy Collectors were promoted to the rank of Deputy Collector on the last occasion when appointments were made. Their names are contained in the Notification No. 6249 A., dated the 1st December, 1913, published in the Calcutta Gazette of the 3rd December, 1913.

There were no Muhammadans among the officers promoted. At the time of the appointments there were no Muhammadans in the first grade, containing 9 officers, of whom 1 was promoted; 2 Muhammadans in the second grade, containing 28 officers, of whom 4 were promoted; and 8 Muhammadans in the third grade, containing 52 officers, of whom 1 was promoted. No promotions were made from the 4th and 5th grades."

The Hon'ble MAULVI A. K. FAZ-UL-HAQ asked the following supplementary question:—

With reference to the answer to my unstarred question No. X, the second paragraph mentions certain promotions. I beg to ask whether these promotions refer to Muhammadans or non-Muhammadans.

The Hon'ble Mr. CUMMING said:—

"As the answer states definitely that no Muhammadans were promoted, it obviously refers to non-Muhammadans only."

by the Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI:—

XI.—(*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state what action has been taken in Bengal, during the present financial year, in the matter of extending the application of the principle of free elementary education amongst the poorer and more backward sections of the population, in accordance with the resolution of the Government of India, dated the 22nd February, 1913?

Free elementary education.

(*b*) What sum of money was spent in 1912-13 and 1913-14 on the aforesaid object?

(*c*) How many boys and girls in Bengal were in receipt of free elementary education during the year 1912-13 and how many in 1913-14?

The following answer by the Hon'ble Mr. SAMMAN was laid on the table:—

(*a*) "In considering the distribution of the Imperial assignments for elementary education due regard has been paid to the suggestion that a portion of the grant should be devoted to reducing or abolishing the fees in the case of poor pupils and backward sections of the population. In Eastern Bengal about one-third of the boys attending schools and in Western Bengal one-tenth of the scholars are reading practically free. In view of the much

by the Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI :—*contd.*

more urgent claims in other directions for the improvement of primary education, it was felt that the best method of giving effect to the wishes of the Government of India would be to apply such funds as would be left over, after carrying out the more important reforms, to the establishment of schools in backward communities, in which either no fees would be charged or only fees far lower than those paid in ordinary schools. A sum of Rs. 30,000 for capital expenditure and a sum of Rs. 6,000 for recurring expenditure have been allocated for the purpose during the current financial year.

(*b*) In 1912-13, a sum of Rs. 20,150 was spent on schools in backward localities and in 1913-14 a sum of Rs. 21,000 was spent for the same purpose.

(*c*) In the year 1912-13, about 227,000 boys were reading practically free in schools in Bengal. Similar figures for the year 1913-14 are not at present available. As regards girls, it is not possible to supply definite statistics. Roughly speaking, however, no fees are charged in the majority of girls' primary schools. Some middle schools for girls are also free."

Primary schools in the Presidency of Bengal.

XII.—Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing—

(*i*) the number of primary schools in the Presidency of Bengal, division by division;

(*ii*) the number of boys who attended such schools in 1912-13; and

(*iii*) the number attending them in 1913-14?

The following answer by the Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN was laid on the table :—

(*i*) and (*ii*) "A statement is laid on the table.

(*iii*) The annual returns showing the number of boys attending primary schools in 1913-14 will not be due until May next. It is not therefore possible to furnish the information at present."

Statement referred to in the Answer by the Hon'ble Mr. Samman to Question No. XII asked at the Council meeting of the 28th February, 1914, showing the number of primary schools and of the boys attending them on the 31st March, 1913, in each division of the Presidency of Bengal.

Division.	Total number of primary schools	Total number of boys attending primary schools on the 31st March, 1913.
Burdwan	9,596	257,841
Presidency	5,732	190,370
Dacca	9,051	237,446
Chittagong	4,651	143,473
Rajshahi	5,838	168,025
TOTAL ...	34,868	997,155

[*Babu Surendra Nath Banerji; Mr. Samman; Mr. Finnimore.*]

by the Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI :—*contd.*

Rural water-supply in the Presidency of Bengal.

XIII.—(*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether any overseers have been appointed to report on the condition of rural water-supply in the Presidency during the present financial year?

(*b*) If so, have any reports been submitted by any of these overseers?

(*c*) If the answers to questions (*a*) and (*b*) are in the affirmative, will the Government be pleased to lay such reports on the table, at the same time indicating what action (if any) has been or is being taken on them?

The following answer by the Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN was laid on the table :—

(*a*) & (*b*) "The Hon'ble Member is referred to the answer given to Question No. 14 asked by the Hon'ble Raja Mahendra Ranjan Ray Chaudhuri at the Council meeting of the 13th January, 1914. No later information is available.

(*c*) The reports of the sub-overseers appointed are to be submitted not to Government but to District Boards, by whom the necessary action will be taken."

Condition of the Dhaleshwari river in the Dacca Division.

XIV.—(*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state the condition of the Dhaleshwari river in the Dacca Division?

(*b*) Is that river in danger of being silted up at its source?

The following answer by the Hon'ble MR. FINNIMORE was laid on the table :—

(*a*) "There are a series of shoals extending for a distance of 3 miles from the entrance of the Dhaleshwari river from the Jamuna over which there is only 2½ feet of water, which is insufficient for steamer traffic but sufficient for country boats. As the river is wide, there is a fair quantity of water passing down.

There are also several shoals above Dacca with about 2½ feet of water over them.

Dredging is in progress and the dredger is now working downwards from the entrance. Besides dredging, a considerable amount of bandalling work is being done to keep the channels open.

(*b*) Owing to the mouth of the river continually changing its position, no permanent improvement of the entrance can be made, either by dredging or bandalling."

Schemes for the improvement of waterways in Bengal.

XV.—(*a*) Have the Committee, appointed by the Government for the purpose of considering schemes for the improvement of waterways in Bengal, submitted their report?

(*b*) If so, will the Government be pleased to publish the said report and also state what action (if any) they have taken or are taking in relation thereto?

The following answer by the Hon'ble MR. FINNIMORE was laid on table :—

(*a*) "A Standing Committee for Waterways was appointed in Bengal Government Resolution No. 3847 *I.* of the 28th August, 1912, to advise Government on the subject of the measures to be taken for the maintenance and improvement of the waterways of the Presidency of Bengal and for the regulation of traffic on those waterways. The Committee hold meetings periodically, at which schemes of improvement are discussed or called for.

(*b*) The Committee do not publish reports, but submit their recommendations from time to time to Government for consideration."

[*Mr. Kerr; Raja Shoshi Kanta Acharyya Chaudhuri Bahadur; Mr. Samman.*]

Distress in the Gopalganj subdivision owing to the failure of the harvest.

XVI.—(*a*) Are the Government aware that the people of certain villages in the subdivision of Gopalganj in the district of Faridpur are in great distress owing to the failure of the harvest during two successive years?

(*b*) Are the Government considering the question of postponing the demand for settlement expenses in the affected parts of the aforesaid subdivision?

The following answer by the Hon'ble MR. KERR was laid on the table :—

(*a*) "Government are aware that a certain amount of distress has existed for some time past in portions of the Gopalganj subdivision of the Faridpur district. The Commissioner reports that the distress at present is nowhere very great and that the situation calls for no anxiety. Twenty thousand rupees have been distributed as agricultural loans, and further sums will be distributed for the purchase of paddy seed, if required. *Boro* paddy is being extensively cultivated and promises well.

(*b*) Survey and settlement costs are being collected only in the high lands of the Maksudpur and Kasiani thanas, where there has been no distress. In other parts of the subdivision, no coercive measures are being employed, and costs are being realised only from those persons who pay voluntarily. Government do not consider that any further orders are necessary at present, but the situation will be carefully watched."

by the Hon'ble RAJA SHOSHI KANTA ACHARYYA CHAUDHURI BAHADUR :—

Statistics relating to water-supply, sinking of wells, etc., in the mufassal, during the last five years

XVII.—Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing—

(*i*) the amount of money spent on account of water-supply,

(*ii*) the number of wells sunk,

(*iii*) the number of tanks excavated, and

(*iv*) the number of tanks re-excavated in the mufassal during the last five years?

The following answer by the Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN was laid on the table :—

"A statement giving the desired information is laid on the table."

Statement referred to in the Answer by the Hon'ble Mr. Samman to Question No. XVII asked by the Hon'ble Raja Shoshi Kanta Acharyya Chaudhuri Bahadur at the Council meeting of the 28th February, 1914, showing the amount spent on water-supply, the number of wells sunk, the number of tanks excavated and the number of tanks re-excavated in the mufassal by the District Boards and Municipalities in the Bengal Presidency during the five years, 1908-09 to 1912-13.

Items.	District Boards.	Municipalities.	Total.
Expenditure on account of water-supply.	Rs. 10,12,304	Rs. 32,21,801	Rs. 42,34,105
Number of wells sunk	2,635	372	3,007
Number of tanks excavated.	277	47	324
Number of tanks re-excavated.	538	60	598

[*Mr. Lyon.*]

THE CHITTAGONG PORT BILL, 1914.

List of Business—Item No. 3.—The Hon'ble Mr. Lyon presented the Report of the Select Committee on the Chittagong Port Bill, 1914, and moved that the said Report be taken into consideration.

He said—

"I need not detain the Council for long in making this motion. It is with great pleasure that we have been able to present an unanimous Report for the acceptance of the Council. When introducing the Bill, I explained that there were one or two matters concerning which there was some difference of opinion, and that for that reason the Government deemed it best not to send the Bill at once to Select Committee, but to give time for it to be fully debated and considered by the persons affected by it, and also to give time to enable us to obtain the services of one of the members of the commercial community who were particularly interested in the Bill, to be added to our Council and to the Select Committee to be appointed for the consideration of the Bill. I am glad to say that the action we took has been justified by the results. The Bill has been very carefully considered by those who are affected by it, and the result of that consideration has been that the Port Commissioners and those members of the Port Commission who were opposed to the majority, have been able to approach the final question of the consideration of the Bill in a spirit of great reasonableness, and have met each other in such a manner that their differences have been composed, and that the final result has been one that Government could accept. I will refer, therefore, in dealing with the Report of the Select Committee, only to those particular points in which there was originally some difference of opinion.

The first is that concerning the use of the jetties which, as I explained before, are, in Chittagong, the property of the Railway Company and not the property of the Port.

As I explained, the difficulty as to the exercise of their authority over the jetty by the Railway Company has been met by the special provision which lays down that the Railway Board shall have final authority in the matter of any modification of the rates to be charged at these jetties, and, secondly, by the executive arrangement which has been arrived at between the Government of India and ourselves, that the Local Government shall be consulted before any change in rates is made by the Railway Board. I am glad to say that upon this point the safeguards that have been provided have been deemed by those affected to be adequate.

A somewhat more difficult matter was the operation of clause 43—one of the compulsory clauses of the Bill. As a preliminary to the consideration of clause 43, we made a slight modification in sub-clause (*d*) of clause 25 of the Bill, by which we provided that those who are mainly interested in the application of the compulsory clauses of the Bill shall not be prevented, by the operation of that sub-clause, from voting in any matter concerning the application of the compulsory clauses of the Bill. A good deal of importance was attributed to the introduction of that proviso, and Government found it possible to accept it.

We then came to the actual application of clause 43. The main difficulty, as represented to us by the members of the Select Committee who were connected with the Port and who were also representatives of the regular periodic services of coasting steamers and inland steamers, was that, under clause 43, they might be ordered to make use of inadequate facilities provided for them in the Port, from time to time, while they would be left to carry out the greater portion of their work by means of their own establishment and plant. They urged that the maintenance of this establishment and plant would be inevitable, owing to the impossibility of allowing their vessels to wait in the stream until access could be given to them to any particular pontoon or jetty. They therefore asked that their services might be exempted from the operation of clause 43 of the Bill until adequate facilities were

provided by the Port for dealing with their share of the trade of the Port, and until they could accordingly dispense with the special staff and plant which are at present provided by them for the landing and shipping of goods and passengers. This representation appeared to the Select Committee and to the Government to be a reasonable one, and it has been agreed, with the approval of the Port Commissioners, that these services shall be exempted from the operation of clause 43 until adequate facilities are provided for them.

It is to be understood that this exemption will be accorded to each particular service of steamers separately, and that, should the Port Commissioners provide adequately for one particular service, it will be open to the Commissioners to cancel the exemption of that service—open to the Commissioners, I should say, with the consent of the Local Government—and to bring into operation the provisions of clause 43 with respect to it, the point being borne in mind that each Company is to be protected from a partial operation of clause 43, which, while compelling the use of a jetty or pontoon for some of its steamers, would not provide adequately for all the steamers of the periodic service concerned.

This arrangement has met the views of the Steamer Companies affected, and will be carried out in due course after the passing of the Bill.

That, I think, disposes of the difficulty with which we were confronted when the Bill was originally proposed, and I believe that, with the carrying out of these arrangements, the Bill will be accepted, with the approval of everybody concerned.

I beg, therefore, my Lord, to present the Report of the Select Committee on the Chittagong Port Bill, 1914, and to move that the said Report be taken into consideration."

The motion was then put and agreed to.

LIST OF AMENDMENTS TO THE CHITTAGONG PORT BILL.

LIST OF AMENDMENTS—MOTION NO. I. CLAUSE 2.

The Hon'ble MR. LYON said :—

"I have to move a few small and purely formal amendments to the Bill. The first of them relates to a technical matter. Under section 8 of the Local Authorities Loans Act, XI of 1879, the borrowing of money in certain circumstances by any local authority is prohibited, but exceptions are provided for the Municipalities of Calcutta, Bombay and Madras, the Trustees of the Ports of Bombay and Madras, the Commissioners for making Improvements in the Port of Calcutta, and the Commissioners for the Port of Rangoon.

In view of clauses 75 and 76 in this Bill, which provide for borrowing powers and borrowing by the Port Commissioners, it was thought necessary that we should add to these exemptions the Commissioners for the Port of Chittagong. This was provided for in our Bill. The Government of India informed us, however, that they themselves were engaged in amending the Loans Authorities Bill, and that, if they passed their Amending Bill before we passed ours, it would be unnecessary for us to make this amendment. They have now (only yesterday) passed their Bill, and have introduced therein the amendment which we proposed to introduce here. I therefore beg to move that clause 2 (2) of the Bill be omitted."

The motion was then put and agreed to.

Second Schedule.

List of Amendments—Motion No. II.—The Hon'ble Mr. Lyon moved that the Second Schedule to the Bill be omitted.

[*Mr. Lyon.*]

He said :—

"This is a consequential amendment introduced for the reason I have just explained."

The motion was then put and agreed to.

Third Schedule.

List of Amendments—Motion No. III.—The Hon'ble Mr. Lyon moved that, for Articles 1, 2 and 3 of Part I of the Third Schedule to the Bill, the following be substituted, namely :—

(1) All the land belonging to Government, bounded on the east by the Nimtolly creek ; on the south by the Karnaphuli river ; on the west by the Monohurkhali creek ; and on the north by a line drawn from Nimtolly creek to Monohurkhali creek, east and west immediately to the south of the premises owned by B. R. Texeira, known at the time of the passing of the Chittagong Port Commissioners Act, 1887, hereinafter in this Schedule called the said Act, as the Sailors' Home. Ben. Act IV of 1887.

(2) The land held by Government at the time of the passing of the said Act in the occupation of the Customs Department, bounded on the east by the road known as the Rangamati road ; on the south by the land belonging to Government, the boundaries of which are set forth in Article 1 ; on the west by the Monohurkhali creek ; and on the north by private property, viz., plot No. 7 of the cadastral survey, but excluding plot No. 12 of the said survey.

(3) The land held by Government, bounded on the east by the Monohurkhali creek ; on the south by the land, at the time of the passing of the said Act, occupied by the Government Salt Golahs ; on the west by a public road leading to the Sadar Ghat jetty ; and on the north by private property, viz., plot No. 19 of the cadastral survey.

He said :—

"The Third Schedule to the Bill contains a recital of the immovable property transferred by Government to the Commissioners under the Port Commissioners Act, 1887, with elaborate lists of boundaries. It has taken a very long time to revise and amend those boundaries correctly, and unfortunately it was not possible to get a complete review of them prepared before the Bill was dealt with in Committee. We have now, however, received a proper statement of these boundaries and, in consequence, we wish to introduce certain Articles into the Third Schedule in the place of the existing Articles 1, 2 and 3 of that Schedule." Ben. Act IV of 1887.

The motion was put and agreed to.

List of Amendments—Motion No. IV.—The Hon'ble Mr. Lyon moved that, in line 6 of Article 9 of the said Schedule to the Bill, for the word and figure "clause 4" the word and figure "Article 5" be substituted.

He said :—

"My Lord, I have, in connection with the same Schedule, to move that, in line 6 of Article 9 of the said Schedule to the Bill, for the word and figure 'clause 4' the word and figure 'Article 5' be substituted.

This is a purely formal amendment."

The motion was then put and agreed to.

List of Business—Item No. 4.—The Hon'ble Mr. Lyon moved that the Secretary be directed to renumber the clauses and sub-clauses of the Bill in consecutive order, and to make corresponding alterations in all cross-references thereto.

The motion was put and agreed to.

[*Mr. Lyon; Babu Surendra Nath Ray.*]

List of Business—Item No. 5.—The Hon'ble Mr. Lyon moved that the Bill, as settled in Council, be passed.

He said :—

"I hope that I may congratulate the House on passing a very useful and valuable piece of legislation."

The motion was then put and agreed to.

RESOLUTIONS.

(*Under the Rules for the discussion of matters of general public interest.*)

List of Business—Item No. 6.—The Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Ray moved the following Resolution :—

This Council recommends to the Governor in Council that the proposal to abolish the Engineering College at Sibpur be dropped, and that the said College be either retained at Sibpur, or, if its present site is considered unsuitable,—

(*i*) be removed to a suitable site in Calcutta or its immediate vicinity, or

(*ii*) be made a branch of the proposed Technological Institute in Calcutta.

He said :—

"I must say at the outset that I am not opposed to the opening of a department of Civil Engineering in the proposed Dacca University. What I want, however, is that the College at Sibpur be not abolished, but that, if the Government think of removing it, it may be removed to Calcutta or its immediate vicinity.

In reply to a question put in this Council by my hon'ble friend Dr. Nilratan Sarkar on the 13th March last, the Hon'ble Mr. Kerr said: 'Government are aware that a considerable body of opinion desires that provision should be made for the teaching of Civil Engineering in Calcutta or its neighbourhood on the abandonment of the Sibpur College. Public opinion has already been invited upon the proposals made by the Dacca University Committee, and the scheme for the Technological College referred to above will also be published for public consideration before any final decision is come to upon it.'

In reply to a question put in this Council by the Hon'ble Rai Nalinaksha Basu Bahadur on the 1st September last, the Hon'ble Mr. Cumming said: 'The proposals for providing the instructions now imparted at Sibpur partly in the Dacca University and partly in the projected Technological Institute in Calcutta are still under the consideration of Government.'

Some of the leading Associations of Calcutta have been asked their opinion on the report of the Technological Institute Committee, and they have submitted their opinion and the whole matter is now under the consideration of Government. It is necessary that Government should be apprised of the opinion of the people of this Province who are already represented in your Lordship's Council. As this subject, I mean the retention of the Engineering College at Sibpur, or of its removal to Calcutta or in its immediate vicinity, or, if the Government so desire, of making it a department of the proposed Technological Institute, cannot be considered by the Council except in the form of a Resolution of this Council, I have thought it proper to bring forward this Resolution. We are not as yet aware as to the reason of the present proposal for removing the Civil Engineering College from Sibpur. The utility of the College has never been questioned. Men in authority have testified to the good work done by the College. It would be considered as a reactionary measure by the people at least of this part of the province if there be no Civil Engineering College in or about Calcutta.

[*Babu Surendra Nath Ray.*]

If the Civil Engineering College at Sibpur had proved to be a failure, there would certainly have been some justification for its abolition. The Hon'ble Mr. Nathan, at a meeting of the Technological Institute Committee in 1912, alluded to the long and excellent record of higher engineering education in Bengal. And all this higher engineering has been hitherto imparted by the Sibpur College. Rai Krishna Chandra Banarji Bahadur, who, I think, held the position of a Superintending Engineer in Bengal, has pointed out in a speech delivered by him in the Central Council of the Association for the Advancement of Scientific and Industrial Education in April 1912, that there are at least 120 Bengali Civil Engineers outside the permanent establishment of the Public Works Department, which clearly shows that, besides Government service, there are other openings in Bengal for men who have adopted civil engineering as their profession. And last but not least, it was only the other day that a Sibpur student was appointed by your Lordship's Government to the blue ribbon of the Engineering service—I mean the Secretaryship of your Lordship's Government.

I have come to learn from inquiries made by me that, out of a total of 90 students at present prosecuting their studies in the Engineering Department of the Sibpur College, 42 or nearly half the number of students come from the Presidency Division alone, 14 from the Burdwan Division and that only 15 students come from the Dacca Division; whereas in the Apprentice Department of the College, out of a total of 162 students exactly half the number, viz., 81, come from the Presidency Division and 41 from the Burdwan Division; whereas the number of students from the Dacca Division is only 21. I respectfully submit that in all matters, specially in matters educational, the claims of the most important divisions of the Province ought to be taken into consideration.

The Civil Engineering College at Sibpur is not and has not been quite sufficient to meet the requirements of the students of Bengal who want to qualify themselves as civil engineers. It is admitted by administrators of the Province that the supply of engineers is not equal to the demand. At one time students from Bengal went to Roorkee and to Poona to get instructions in civil engineering and in both the places, be it said to their credit, they acquitted themselves remarkably well. The Roorkee Engineering College is now practically closed to the natives of Bengal. It was only the other day, I mean about the middle of December last, that a Resolution was moved in the Bombay Legislative Council to close the doors of the Poona College of Engineering to all except the inhabitants of the Bombay Presidency and the Native States under the same Presidency. Though the Engineering College at Sibpur has been in existence for nearly 35 years, I find, from the calendar for 1913-14 of the College of Engineering at Poona, kindly forwarded to me by the Principal of the College, and from the answers given to me in reply to my questions, that there are at present 9 Bengali students in that College, that 61 Bengali students passed from the Poona Engineering College in the years 1900-13 and that in each of the years 1903 and 1906, as many as 9 students passed from that College. This proves the necessity for the establishment of another Engineering College in the Province. There are now, moreover, about 40 or 50 Bengali students in England and Scotland studying civil engineering. This information I received only by the last mail. The Dacca University, where it is proposed to have a Civil Engineering Department teaching up to the B.E. standard, will admit only 20 students per annum and will generally have about 60 students on its rolls, though it may hereafter take in about 90 to 100 students. There is a larger demand for engineers than the Sibpur College can supply, and that even Dacca, with its maximum number of students, will not be able to supply the public demand. It therefore becomes an imperative necessity that there should be an institution for the promotion of higher civil engineering in or about Calcutta. As I have said at the very outset, I am not opposed to the establishment of an Engineering College at Dacca because of the growing requirements of the country. What, however, I want to impress upon your Lordship's Government is the fact that here in Calcutta we have got a fully-equipped University having the Arts, Science, Medical and Engineering faculties all affiliated to it. Here

[*Babu Surendra Nath Ray.*]

in Calcutta a great impetus has been given of late to the study of scientific subjects and pursuit of industrial activities by public and private munificence and by the opening of professorial chairs attached to the University College of Science.

Why should the Calcutta University—the premier University in India, having a brilliant record, be now mutilated and deprived of one of its principal departments of study in the midst of its useful career? We only want that Sibpur should not be sacrificed and the money obtained by sale of the college buildings and lands be utilised for the establishment of a Civil Engineering College at Dacca, and the annual expenditure incurred at Sibpur be spent in another part of the Province.

It may be argued that a Technological Institute is going to be opened ere long by Government in Calcutta, and that will supply a much-needed want of the people of this country. The proposed institute may be productive of great good. People have asked for it for a number of years, and we are sincerely grateful to Government for at last taking up the subject. But, my Lord, if, by conferring a boon upon the people of this Province, your Lordship's Government deprive the people of another boon of which they have been in the enjoyment for nearly half a century, the people will not very much appreciate the boon thus conferred. It will be considered as a retrograde step. The loss to the people of this part of the Province by the abolition of the Sibpur Civil Engineering College will outweigh the gain by the establishment of the Technological Institute, which, I humbly submit, is only problematic. Moreover, there is a vast difference between the education imparted in the Technological Institute and in a Civil Engineering College. The Association for the Advancement of Scientific and Industrial Education of Indians, in their letter to your Lordship's Government, have justly said that for a pure Technological Institute, without its civil engineering department, to have a sufficient number of students, the country must wait for some time yet. It should also be remembered that in every Technological Institute in Europe, America or Japan, the civil engineering department is one of the important and indispensable components.

The Dacca University Committee admits that Calcutta is a centre of great engineering activity, "that living in the neighbourhood of Calcutta the members of the Engineering staff would have facilities for intercourse with men engaged in large projects and works, which facilities must be denied to them at Dacca." Calcutta and Howrah, with their waterworks and drainage, roads and buildings, with their docks, wharves and bridges, with mills and manufactories extending for about 10 miles on both sides of the river Hooghly, with the works of the Municipal Corporations and Improvement Trust in full swing, with the different railway lines and railway workshops, are, I need hardly say, the places where engineering training can properly be given. The Dacca University Committee frankly admits that some of the suggestions made for imparting instructions to the boys of the Engineering College at Dacca would not be more than a mere palliative, and it considered that from that particular point of view Dacca was at a manifest disadvantage as compared with the neighbourhood of Calcutta.

There is no doubt the proposal in the report of the Technological Institute is to have a civil engineering department up to the overseer grade attached to it. If, by spending a little more money, the Government can have the civil engineering department teaching up to the B.E. standard as a department of the Technological Institute, we do not demur to such an arrangement. The Hon'ble Mr. Knehler, one of the members of the Technological Institute Committee, proposed that, even if a residential College for Civil Engineering be established by Government, the authorities of the Technological Institute should not be precluded from opening classes in higher civil engineering if such a course be found desirable. In fact, his proposal that, if two institutions cannot be provided separately, then provision of a non-residential nature should be made for the teaching of higher civil engineering in the Technological Institute, was carried.

The old theory that it is necessary to give up Sibpur on account of its unhealthiness has, I think, been exploded. The Principal of the Sibpur Engineering College, Mr. Heaton, thus speaks on the healthiness of the

[*Babu Surendra Nath Ray; Mr. Lyon.*]

locality, as it appears from the report of the Committee of the proposed Technological Institute: "The reference from Government in regard to the Sibpur site prejudiced discussion on this site, and the Committee condemned it because members did not believe or even investigate my assertions in regard to the great improvement that has taken place in regard to the healthiness in the ten years that have elapsed since we first thought of the advisability of removing to Ranchi." It appears from the said report that my hon'ble friend, Dr. Sarbadhikari, and Mr. Heaton raised the question of the possible retention of the Sibpur College on its present site, but that the Chairman pointed out that in the resolution appointing the Committee the assumption is made that the college was to be removed. It further appears, I quote from the published proceedings of the said Committee, that Dr. Sarbadhikari was in favour of maintaining a higher standard of teaching. But a bad name had already been given to the sanitary condition of Sibpur and the only course left was to hang it.

It appears from the statistics supplied to me by the Sanitary Commissioner of Bengal that Howrah town which includes Sibpur has been gradually becoming healthier, and we see that in 1912 it was the healthiest as compared with Calcutta and Dacca, the mortality of Howrah in 1912 being 25·17, that of Calcutta 28·13 and that of Dacca 32·34 per mille. I have thought it proper to compare the mortality of Howrah with that of Calcutta and Dacca for the simple reason that in Calcutta there are about fifteen thousand graduates and undergraduates prosecuting their studies in the different institutions at the present time, while in Dacca it is proposed to have a new university with a civil engineering department—though it is not healthier than Sibpur.

Large grants, both recurring and non-recurring, have been made to your Lordship's Government by the Imperial Government for education. If any portion of this amount is spent for a Civil Engineering College in or near about Calcutta, it will be money usefully spent. "It is my wish," said His Imperial Majesty the King-Emperor, in reply to the address presented by the University of Calcutta on the 11th January, 1912 in this very building, "that there shall be spread over the land a network of schools and colleges, from which will go forth loyal, manly and useful citizens, able to hold their own in industries and agriculture and all the vocations of life, and it is my wish, too, that the homes of my Indian subjects may be brightened, and their labour sweetened by the spread of knowledge, with all that follows in its train—a higher level of thought, of comfort and of health. It is through education that my wish will be fulfilled, and the cause of education in India will be very close to my heart." The proposal to abolish the Civil Engineering College at Sibpur—following so soon after the words of hope and encouragement of His Imperial Majesty—words which still keep ringing in our ears—has, I need hardly say, come with feelings of disappointment upon all. Let knowledge grow from more to more is our earnest wish, and we hope and trust that your Lordship's Government will foster her growth."

The Hon'ble Mr. Lyon said:—

"My Lord, I presume that the Council would not wish the question to be put without some reply being given to the speech made by the Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Ray, though he has not been supported by any other member of the Council. The speech that he has made has ended with a reference to a certain promise made by His Imperial Majesty, to the great pleasure and enthusiasm of the people of India. I wish to preface my remarks by reminding this House that everything we are doing with reference to the Sibpur Engineering College, or with reference to industrial or technical education is imbued with, and is absolutely based upon, the spirit of the statements made by His Imperial Majesty, and our most earnest desire is to do everything that we can to increase the advantages offered to the people of Bengal in this matter of industrial and technical education, as in all other matters connected with education. There can be no ground for a suggestion that in anything that we are doing with reference to the Sibpur Engineering College, we wish to restrict the facilities offered to Bengal or lower the standard of education in Bengal, and I am perfectly certain that the Hon'ble

[*Mr. Lyon.*]

Member will himself acknowledge that all that we are doing is with the object I have already stated. I wish to put that in the forefront of my remarks, because there may be other gentlemen who may be inclined to take the same line.

I wish to acknowledge, in the next place, the Hon'ble Member's acceptance of the proposal that there should be an Engineering College at Dacca. I think that I detected in some of the arguments subsequently used by the Hon'ble Member some slight drawing back from the whole-hearted support which he first gave to the establishment of an Engineering College at Dacca, but I do not wish to press that point, seeing that he has actually accepted it.

I should next like to say a few words with reference to certain definite points raised by his Resolution.

In the first place, the wording of the Resolution is such that, I think, it would be extremely difficult for the Government or this Council to accept it. The wording of the substantive motion is that the proposal to abolish the Engineering College at Sibpur be dropped, with the addition that the said College be either retained at Sibpur, or, if its present site is considered unsuitable, be removed to a suitable site in Calcutta or its immediate vicinity, or be made a branch of the proposed Technological Institute in Calcutta.

I venture to say that we cannot treat the Sibpur Engineering College as an entirely indivisible whole, and that the Hon'ble Members' proposition that the abolition of the Sibpur Engineering College be dropped is destructive of any possible alternative such as he subsequently suggests. The basis of the whole scheme that we have put forward before the public of Bengal is the separation of the two main functions of the Civil Engineering College at Sibpur. The Principal of the Sibpur Engineering College has pointed out more than once that the institution at Sibpur is a great deal more than a Civil Engineering College, and that it imparts mechanical and electrical engineering instruction, provides for mining and dyeing classes and has also attempted to provide for other branches of industrial education. The scheme which we have placed before the people of Bengal, and which is still under consideration, is a scheme for developing each branch of the present institution at Sibpur. We have proposed to establish mining classes in the mining districts, with the enthusiastic consent of all who are concerned with mining. We also propose to establish a Technological Institute in Calcutta, in accordance with the unanimous recommendations of a committee appointed to consider the subject, which contained influential engineers, officials and members of the commercial and other communities in Bengal, to deal with those other branches which are now dealt with in the Sibpur College. I gather from the Hon'ble Member's speech that he approves of these schemes. How is such approval consistent with his proposition that the abolition of the Sibpur Engineering College should be dropped?

We come then to the Engineering College and the branches attached to it. One of the points on which all persons whom we have consulted and who know anything of the training of engineers are unanimous is that the training of junior officers to deal with engineering, such as overseers and supervisors, must be separated from the training of Assistant Engineers. It is a technical matter and may be left to those who understand the technicalities of the profession; but it is a very important point, and if the Hon'ble Member will go back to the papers which he has studied so carefully, he will find that most people have accepted the principle that these two branches of training should be separate. I may point out incidentally that the necessity for this separation was one of the reasons why the Ranchi Scheme was given up. When the Ranchi Scheme was proposed, strong arguments were adduced to show that Sibpur was entirely unfitted, for other reasons besides unhealthiness, for the purposes for which it was being used, that the buildings were inadequate, having been built for other purposes, such as Public Works Department workshops and so on, and that the proximity to the town of Calcutta was unwholesome for students as also was the unhealthiness of the place. While these were all adduced as being strong reasons for removing the college to Ranchi, none of the strong opinions as to the necessity of retaining the College in Calcutta, and as to the danger and difficulties in which the people of Bengal would

[*Mr. Lyon.*]

be placed owing to its removal to Ranchi were then mentioned. Another of the reasons why the Ranchi Scheme failed was because it was found that all who were acquainted with the latest developments of technical education were convinced that for that purpose, and for that purpose alone, it was necessary for us to establish an institute in the very heart of Calcutta, in the neighbourhood of business houses, the headquarters of the firms which might eventually utilise the services of our men, and near those very industrial concerns in which were employed the artisans who would attend the night classes to be established in the institute. That was one of the reasons for coming back from Ranchi to Calcutta, and it is incidentally one of the reasons why Sibpur is unsuitable for our purpose; but the main reason is this that a single institute at Ranchi was inadvisable because it was desirable to separate civil engineering studies for the higher classes from the studies for the posts of overseers and supervisors.

I will not go into the question of the Dacca University. The matter is now before the Secretary of State, and he is considering the details of the scheme of the Dacca University. But I wish to point out one other very important reason which has not been touched on by the Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Ray, why it will be inadvisable for this Council to accept a definite resolution of this kind at the present moment, and that is because the whole question of the training of our engineers has been raised by evidence before the Public Services Commission. A great deal of evidence has been given before the Public Services Commission as to the best way of training our engineers, and there can be no doubt that the Commission will deal with this question, and will probably deal with it very thoroughly. I think that the Council will be hampering itself, will be blocking its way to the subsequent acceptance of a scheme which they might otherwise look upon favourably, if they now record a somewhat hasty resolution with reference to the Sibpur Institution. There has been a question of the establishment of an Imperial College for engineers from all parts of India and I gather that gentlemen who are members of this Council are not afraid that Bengali students in such an institution would be in any way backward or would show inability or incapacity to come to the front, and I may say at once that I myself agree with them. I believe that, so far as the capacity of the Bengali student to work his way to the front in any institution of the kind is concerned, we have nothing to fear. But that is a scheme and a possibility—there are reasons for and reasons against it. I have on a previous occasion given some reasons against the scheme based upon what I believe was the general opinion expressed at the time, but other reasons may be given which may change our views in this matter, and I doubt whether it is wise for this Council to block the way for such a scheme by the adoption of the present resolution.

There is yet another reason why it would be unwise to accept this resolution, and that is that the Technological Institute Scheme, which has been received, I may say, most favourably in all its main propositions (although there are details, which we are perfectly willing to consider, which have come in for criticism) is still on the anvil, and may be modified or altered in various important respects. This resolution that we should drop the proposal for the abolition of the College at Sibpur directly traverses the favourable opinions we have received in reference to the Technological Institute.

On these grounds, I am afraid that Government are not prepared to accept this resolution, which would seem to block the way to further progress in industrial education in Calcutta, nor do I think this Council would be wise in accepting it. I wish to put it as strongly as possible that we are all for progress; that we are all united in the desire for it, we are all anxious to expand our institutions, to extend them on the right lines, and to give further and further opportunities, especially in the matter of industrial education. Having this anxious desire before us, we, from the Government point of view, are equally anxious that we should not appear to be bidebound in our affections for existing institutions, if we can improve such institutions. The Hon'ble Member has given us eloquent proof of the success of the Bengali students at Sibpur. What, I wish to put before this Council is that

[*Babu Surendra Nath Banerji.*]

if, with the limited opportunities and with the well-known and accepted disadvantages at Sibpur, the Bengali students have been able to cope with these difficulties and have been so successful in their profession, what might they not do under improved circumstances, and with those improved opportunities for learning which we desire to give them? I trust that the Council will not hamper the way to future expansion by the acceptance of this resolution."

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI said :—

"My Lord, on this side of the House we have listened with great interest and attention to the speech of the Hon'ble Member in opposing the resolution of my hon'ble friend to the left. The Hon'ble Member has told us that the Government is all for progress—expansion in the matter of education. I can assure him from this side of the House that non-official members will cordially co-operate with the Government in all matters calculated to further advance the cause of educational progress in all directions. But what we feel is this: that if the Sibpur College is abolished, and if suitable arrangements are not made for the higher training of Bengalis in the matter of engineering, instead of expansion there will be restriction in an important direction. My Lord, we have heard a great deal about literary education, about its undue growth and extension. Newspapers have dinned that remark into our ears in season and out of season, and here is a resolution placed before your Lordship's Council for the purpose of giving a stimulus not to the growth of literary but of technical education, which will give bread to the people of Bengal and therefore we expect that in this matter the whole-hearted sympathies of Government will be accorded to us. But what we fear is this: that if the Sibpur College is abolished and if no adequate arrangements are made for the training of subordinates as well as of civil engineers, a set-back will be given to the cause of technical education in this Province. Is the Hon'ble Member prepared to give us an assurance that, when the Sibpur College is abolished, or when its scope is restricted, adequate arrangements will be made in Bengal for the higher training of Bengalis in civil engineering? I fail to discover any assurance of that kind in the Hon'ble Member's speech. The Hon'ble Member has pointed out to us difficulties and obstacles which are in the way. The Hon'ble Member has advised this Council not to accept the resolution of my friend on the ground that the matter is now before the Public Services Commission, that important suggestions will be made by that Commission, and that, as those suggestions will have to be considered, it will be premature to accept a resolution of this kind. I may say at once that there is considerable force in that contention. We must not jump to any conclusion either way for or against the resolution, but we want a distinct and clear and deliberate assurance from the Government that something will be done in the Province of Bengal to have in or near Calcutta an Engineering College teaching engineering up to the highest standard. It will not do to have an emasculated branch of the Civil Engineering College in the Technological Institute, and that is all that, we understand, is intended; for, as I learn, subordinates are to be trained, but what about engineering assistants and executive engineers? Where are the facilities for their education and training? I am afraid, as has already been pointed out, that Poona College will soon be closed to us. Roorkee College has already been closed, and where are the people of Bengal to go for training in the higher branches of civil engineering? Is the Hon'ble Member prepared to give us an assurance that in or near Calcutta, amid the environments of the metropolis, an Engineering College will be established, or any institute that will teach engineering in all its departments which will produce subordinates as well as train up higher engineers? Is my hon'ble friend prepared to give us this assurance? In that case I will advise my friend to withdraw his resolution. My Lord, there is a very strong feeling and apprehension with regard to the abolition of the Sibpur College. The feeling is that, if the College be abolished, no similar institution will be established, and the Technological Institute will be an emasculated institution so far as the higher training of civil engineers are concerned. My Lord, I do not think that I need detain the Council at any greater length but I feel that,

[*Maulvi A. K. Faz-ul-Haq : Mr. Lyon.*]

if the Government in this matter are willing to co-operate with us, we are willing to help the Government so far as lies in our power. We shall throw no difficulties in the way; we have no desire to press this resolution, but we want an assurance from my hon'ble friend that, in the event of the abolition of the Sibpur College, some institution will be established in the vicinity of Calcutta, teaching engineering to the higher standards, producing subordinates as well as higher engineers. I only want to say one word more with reference to our attitude in connection with this matter. We do not at all object to the establishment of a school of civil engineering in Dacca. Let there be a school of civil engineers in Dacca by all means; but we feel that, in a place like Calcutta, the home and centre of the industries, with its educational atmosphere, there ought to be a fully equipped engineering college. This is our attitude in regard to this matter."

The Hon'ble MAULVI A. K. FAZ-UL-HAQ said :—

"My Lord, in view of the turn the discussion has taken, I think it my duty to say a few words on the resolution which has been moved by my friend the Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Ray. I think, my Lord, that my friend has made out a very strong case for the establishment of a college for engineering in or near Calcutta in case the Sibpur Engineering College be abolished. I say this in view of the fact that the districts of the western part of the Presidency are, so far as communications are concerned, so badly situated with reference to Dacca that it will be very inconvenient for people living in the western districts to send their boys to Dacca for education. I do not think I exaggerate when I say that a man living at Birbhum or Bankura, for instance, would prefer a journey to Peshawar to undertaking a journey to Dacca for any purpose, and therefore, indeed, the very simple question which it resolves itself into is this: whether a case has been made out for an Engineering College at Sibpur and whether there is any justification for going on with the proposed Engineering College in connection with the Dacca University. Now, my Lord, if my friend had made it a condition that the proposed Engineering College at Dacca should be dropped in order that his resolution may be accepted, I should certainly have voted against his resolution; but at the very outset he gave us to understand that he did not want to make that condition. The question therefore comes to this: whether we should have both the institutions or whether Government are going to give us one at the sacrifice of the other. So far as this question is concerned, the only point that requires consideration is the question of expense. I have listened to the reply given by the Hon'ble Mr. Lyon on the speech of my hon'ble friend, and I confess that I have not been able to make out any other objection than the one relating to expense; but so far as expense is concerned, I think, my Lord, Government have no justification to plead pecuniary embarrassment in order not to carry out a scheme which is certainly for the good of the country. If Government can find money for the duplication and reduplication of capitals, they can certainly find money for such a very useful institution as an Engineering College at Dacca."

The Hon'ble MR. LYON said :—

"May I rise to a point of order? I said nothing as regards expense at all.

The Hon'ble MAULVI A. K. FAZ-UL-HAQ, continuing, said :—

"I was merely anticipating Government's objection on the score of expense, because it seems to me that, if it is conceded that an Engineering College at Sibpur is necessary, and that an Engineering College at Dacca is also necessary, the only question that can arise is one of expense. So far as expense is concerned, I have already said that Government have not been able to make out any case, but, as Government do not wish to press the objection on this score, I do not wish to say anything further: but subject to the restriction that the scheme for an Engineering College in connection with the University

[*Babu Mahendra Nath Ray.*]

at Dacca should not be interfered with. I beg to support the resolution of my hon'ble friend."

The Hon'ble BABU MAHENDRA NATH RAY said :—

"I have no doubt that the Council fully appreciates the difficulties to the acceptance of the resolution as it stands that have been pointed out by the Hon'ble Mr. Lyon, but the principal thing which the Council has to consider is not whether it should accept the resolution moved by the Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Ray in its entirety, but whether it does or does not involve questions of great importance upon which the views of the Council should be ascertained. The Hon'ble Mr. Lyon has explained that the present Sibpur Engineering College consists of various departments, that it trains that class of officers called overseers; that it holds mining classes, and that it also trains that very useful class of officers called assistant engineers. It is very easy to realise the difficulty of having one composite institution which will undertake all these multifarious duties, and therefore it might be very desirable to have in the place of a composite institution like this, separate mining classes to be held in the colliery districts, a central technological institution in Calcutta, certain classes for the training of what are called overseers, or apprentices, and a separate institution for the training of assistant engineers. That is all understood, and any difficulty that lies in the way of accepting the motion moved by my friend is fully realised, and perhaps, after the explanations that the Hon'ble Mr. Lyon has given, my friend might withdraw his motion. At the same time, as the discussion has taken this turn, it is desirable that one point upon which considerable emphasis was laid by my friend the Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Banerji should not be lost sight of. Is it the idea to remove from the neighbourhood of Calcutta an institution where assistant engineers are to be trained? If there is an idea like that, it is time that this Council should definitely express its opinion that that idea ought not to be entertained. I was looking this morning, my Lord, into the list of the principal engineering colleges and technical colleges in the United Kingdom. I find that there are 15 universities which have faculties of engineering attached to them. That implies that each of these 15 universities has an institution annexed to it for the teaching of engineers. I find that, out of the 15 universities, 13 are situated at or in the neighbourhood of big manufacturing towns. The only two which are excluded from the list are the Universities of Cambridge and St. Andrews, places which cannot be considered as being manufacturing towns. The other chief engineering colleges are all situated at or in the neighbourhood of London, and of the numerous technical colleges in the United Kingdom, by far the largest majority of them are situated at big manufacturing provincial towns. If that is so, to my mind it proves the necessity of engineering colleges for the training of the highest classes of engineers being located near manufacturing towns. If the proposal therefore be to remove the College at Sibpur, so far as it is concerned with the training of assistant engineers, to a place far away from the neighbourhood of Calcutta, it is a proposal which I must say must stand condemned on scientific grounds. There is no desire on the part of any member present here, I hope, to deprecate the establishment of a faculty of engineering in connection with the Dacca College, or the institution of an engineering college in connection with that University. What is objectionable is that there should not be either at Calcutta, or in the neighbourhood of Calcutta, a single engineering college for the training of what the Hon'ble Mr. Lyon has called assistant engineers. There have been, with regard to the existing arrangements, as far as I understand, several objections made, many of which will not bear careful criticism. I do not wish to revive the old question of the insanitary condition of that particular part of the town of Howrah where the present Sibpur Engineering College is situated. I have occasion to meet very frequently a retired eminent European professor who worked in that college for 20 years, a gentleman of considerable eminence as a man of science, in the enjoyment of robust health, and he told me that he had occasion to make a careful inquiry into the question of the sanitary condition of Sibpur. He was there for over 20 years, but he said that only two

[*Babu Mahendra Nath Ray; Dr. Nilratan Sarkar.*]

genuine cases of death from malaria could be traced during the period of over 20 years that he was there, and he concluded that if Sibpur had been as insanitary as it was represented to be, he would not have been now at that stage of his life in the enjoyment of sound health. Another objection which has often been suggested is this: that if you are to have an engineering college on the residential system, what does it matter to you whether it is situated in Sibpur or far away at Dacca? The answer to that is, that although there should be a college at Dacca, and I hope there will be an engineering college also at Bankipur at no distant future, the location of even a residential college should be fixed in reasonable proximity to that part of the country from which the majority of the students come. And the figures which my hon'ble friend the Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Ray has supplied have convinced me that the majority of the students, who read in the Engineering College for the purpose of receiving training as assistant engineers, come from, or from the neighbourhood of, the Presidency Division. It would therefore be a calamity to the people of this part of the country—a calamity to those who want to get a training as assistant engineers either for entering the Public Works Department, or for carrying on their profession on their own account—it will be a calamity to them if a residential college for the training of assistant engineers throughout this Presidency be removed to Dacca. Let there be a college at Dacca, let there be a college at Bankipur for the matter of that, for the training of assistant engineers; but let us have either in Calcutta or its neighbourhood one engineering college at least for the training of assistant engineers. That is the idea and, if that idea is approved by Government, I do not see any reason why my friend the Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Ray should press his motion".

The Hon'ble Dr. Nilratan Sarkar said:—

"My Lord, if we are supporting the resolution which has been moved by my hon'ble friend Babu Surendra Nath Ray, it is not from any geographical sentiment or parochial ideas. We feel that, with the removal of the higher departments of the Engineering College at Sibpur, there will be a set-back in the matter of engineering education in this Province. We have never been convinced by the reasons that have been adduced in condemnation of Sibpur. A good deal has been said as regards the insanitary condition and the unsuitable conditions of the surrounding College premises at Sibpur. Well, these are defects that may be easily remedied by suitable measures, and many of them have already been removed. Another objection that has been raised in this connection is that the two departments of engineering training, the higher and the lower, should not be held on the same premises or in the same college. Now, it must be admitted that there is a difference of opinion in this connection, because I find such high authorities like the Hon'ble Mr. Küchler, the late Director of Public Instruction, Mr. Wyness, Professor Everett and Dr. Denning—all these gentlemen—holding that it would be best to dovetail the higher engineering classes into the proposed Technological Institute. In fact, so far as we can find, we think that it would be a more economical and perhaps more efficient arrangement to have the higher and the lower departments of engineering education all accommodated in the same college. Then, my Lord, an objection has been raised in this connection to the effect that the Engineering College must be a residential college. Permit me to quote again from the Hon'ble Mr. Küchler's views when he said that by far the great majority of the engineers, who come out to India to serve in the higher appointments, have been trained not in residential colleges, but in institutions similar in character to the Technological Institute that is going to be established. Dr. Denning, our late Director of Industries, says that the tendency in Western countries has been to establish engineering colleges in industrial centres. Now, when there is such a difference of opinion amongst experts, I do not know what to do, how to choose our course, but, so far as I can see, I think it would be preferable for us—I mean it would be desirable for us to insist upon having an engineering college attached to the proposed Technological Institute that is going to be established in Calcutta. Then, my Lord, as regards the education of civil engineers, there is no question about that. In the budget every year large sums are

[*Dr. Nilratan Sarkar ; Mr. Finnimore.*]

being entered under the head of expenses with regard to the Public Works Department. In fact, this is the largest item this year—it is over one crore of rupees—and that being the largest item, it follows naturally that a good portion of it should be spent upon the staff, so that its education will gradually increase year by year.

Mr. Nathan, while serving on the Committee of Technological Institution, said that of all the higher engineering students of Bengal almost all have been appointed. In fact, there are very few unemployed, and in the near future, with the vast expansion of the country and with the establishment of our Improvement Trust and other things, the demand will go on increasing. Every year there are many miles of waterways and roadways opened, and there is also unceasing activity of the Government in building operations under the Public Works Department ; and every year therefore it appears that the demand for civil engineers will go on increasing. Now, if the demand goes on increasing in this way, is it too much to expect that we should have another Engineering College in addition to the one which we have at Sibpur, or, in other words, we should have two? If it is impossible to retain the Civil Engineering College at Sibpur, it may be incorporated in the Technological Institute that is going to be established in Calcutta. That would complete that Institute in many details and it will also further another end, *i.e.*, it will leave unimpaired one of the most important faculties of the University of Calcutta.

As regards the quality of teaching, attacks, both direct and indirect, have often been made against the Sibpur College. So far as I have been able to gather, there is a unanimity of opinion as regards the quality of the theoretical training imparted to the students there. All are agreed that the theoretical training is very good. Of course such defects as have been pointed out have been mostly in the direction of practical training. Where are we to get a better field for the practical training of students than Calcutta? I think therefore that we should insist on our retaining an Engineering College in or near Calcutta even if it be impossible to retain it at Sibpur on other grounds."

The Hon'ble Mr. FINNIMORE said :—

"My Lord, I should like to make a few remarks on one or two points. It appears to me that this is principally a question of supply and demand. The first question is whether we require an Engineering College at Calcutta or not. At present we have an Engineering College at Sibpur, which trains boys to become civil engineers, that is to train them for what has been called executive engineers and assistant engineers, that is, to be competent by higher education to tackle large engineering problems and be able to do the work required of men of high theoretical qualifications. I think it is fairly obvious that men who have passed the higher examination to become engineers would become and do become very dissatisfied if they have to take the lower branch of the profession, and in fact my own personal experience has been that they are very dissatisfied, and we do not get the same class of men for subordinates from the B.E.'s who come from Sibpur now, as we used to get in the old days by recruiting from practical men who had been trained as work sarkars and then became sub-overseers and eventually upper subordinates. I think, for this reason, it is very necessary that the two branches should be recruited from men educated in separate institutions. At present we first of all offer the appointments available in the subordinate service to the failed B.E. students at Sibpur, that is, those who are unable to obtain the higher appointments of assistant engineers. They readily accept appointments as subordinates in the Department on Rs. 80 a month to start with, because, I conclude, they get nothing better elsewhere, and from the time they enter the Department to the time they leave it, they remain dissatisfied. This is to my mind a very good reason for separating the training of the two branches. I say this with reference to the men who come into the Public Works Department. I imagine those who take other similar subordinate service must have the same feeling. Therefore, I think, it is very much better that there should be one college

for the higher training and another for the training of those men who would be satisfied with smaller appointments.

Then the question comes in as to whether we should provide a central college for all India, or whether we should keep up the present practice of separate colleges for different provinces. Coming back to the point of expense, I think that we can, with the same amount of money, afford a better training to the youth of India in a central college than we can in separate colleges in different provinces. For this reason alone, it seems to me, for the benefit of the youth of India that we should have a central college established. I think the evidence given before the Public Services Commission has shown that this is the right thing to do. We do not know what is going to be done, but it is my opinion that it should be done, and I think for the present we should confine the provincial colleges to the training of lower-grade men. If, however, a central college is not to be established, it is very necessary that we should have a well-equipped Provincial College for the training of engineers.

Then we come to the question: Should we have one or two colleges? At present, there is certainly not enough demand for the number of boys theoretically trained for the higher grade of the Engineering passed out of the Sibpur College. There are not enough appointments for the boys of one college. Therefore there is certainly no necessity for more than one college.

Then we come to the question as to where the college should be placed—in Calcutta or in Dacca. Arguments have been adduced in favour of Calcutta, because there are so many engineering works and workshops in or near Calcutta, whereas there are not any in Dacca. On the other hand, the atmosphere of a residential university at Dacca which will raise the tone of education in this province is a strong argument for having it at Dacca.

There has been an engineering college, one of the best and most successful, in England and which has no connection with, nor is situated near, any larger manufacturing town—I refer to the Cooper's Hill College, and I think I am right in saying that any students who have obtained Cooper's Hill diplomas have always been successful in getting employment not only to the Indian Public Works Department but all over the world. I think that sufficiently proves that an engineering college to be successful need not be near any manufacturing centre. I think that a great deal of the success of Cooper's Hill was due to the healthy life that was led there. We were all recruited from the same ranks of society and we all had the same goal to reach, that is to say, we all wished to be successful engineers. I really think that it would be for the best education of the youth of India, who wish to become successful engineers, to have a large central college which would be brought up on the same lines as Cooper's Hill was, and would be located somewhere in the centre of India. If that is not possible, I certainly think that we should have one college placed at Dacca, where we would have the surroundings of good educationists and boys who are really trying to reach a higher ideal. For that reason I unhesitatingly say that, if we have a provincial college, that college should be at Dacca, and I consider two colleges will be more than the requirements of the present time."

The Hon'ble Dr. Deba Prasad Sarbadhikari said:—

"Whatever differences there may be in regard to the details of the Resolution, we in this part of the House, are at one in regard to the main issue. The details must be left to the judgment of the Government. My Lord, my hon'ble friend Mr. Lyon, who gratuitously flattered himself that there was no support to the Resolution on this side of the House, must by this time be sick of the plethora of support accorded to the Resolution. I believe the desire in this part of the House was not to take up the time of the Council unnecessarily, if there were no official opposition. We were flattering ourselves that the motion would be acceptable to Government, and we should not have to take up the time of the Council in support of that which was not opposed. But my hon'ble friend's reply has dispelled that idea, and every one who has thought about the matter feels it his duty to express sympathy with the object of the Resolution.

[*Dr. Deba Prasad Sarbadhikari.*]

My Lord, pointed reference has been made by the Hon'ble Member moving the resolution to the part I took in the proceedings of the Committee in connection with the Sibpur College question, but it was not possible for the Committee as constituted to go into the question of the removal of the Sibpur College. The Committee of which I was a member was charged with the consideration of the details of the measure on the supposition that the Government had quite made up their mind to remove the College. A Committee like that could not go into matters outside the terms of reference although I raised the question of removal incidentally. That question could well, however, come before this Council which would have investigated the question in all its aspects. If, my Lord, upon the suggestion of the Hon'ble Mr. Finnimore that, pending the consideration of the whole question by the Public Service Commission, an expression of public opinion, on the Commission's recommendations, the Government cannot come to any definite conclusion, be well founded, I must say that no useful purpose will be served in thrashing out the question at this stage and we have no materials before us of dealing with the question as to whether a central college should be established or not. We have not thought out the matter as yet, but I think it would be ideal for India to have a central college of the kind suggested by the Hon'ble Mr. Finnimore, though I notice that there is a vigorous shaking of heads to the contrary on this side of the House. Details, however, are not before us, and we need not go into them now. There will be time enough to deal with the question in all its practical aspects later on as they present themselves to us.

My Lord, the question to be considered is whether Calcutta should be deprived of all facilities for higher engineering training. As I have followed the Hon'ble Mr. Lyon, he was good enough to say that no restriction of facilities of any kind were to be attempted and no lowering of standard was to be thought of in connection with education in Calcutta. And if that policy is followed and if all facilities for imparting higher civil engineering training in Calcutta are not to be interfered with, then I do not think this Resolution ought to be pressed. In the face of such an assurance, we cannot now take up the matter in all its details.

My Lord, we are often told that established facts should not be lightly disturbed. The established fact of the Sibpur College, which has existed for more than 35 years—in fact ever since the foundation of the Presidency College with which it was incorporated at first—which has produced subordinates as well as engineers of high calibre who could hold their own anywhere whether on the Corporation or in the service of Government and against which nothing definite can be urged or has been urged, should not be disturbed so lightly.

My Lord, it has been pointed out that the Committee which sat on the Sibpur College question went into the matter thoroughly. That matter is still before your Excellency's Government for final consideration. My Lord, I feel that, from the materials placed before us, no case could be made out for the removal of the Sibpur College from its existing site. On the other hand, if, in its place, a techninal institute such as the Hon'ble Mr. Finnimore has suggested is started, it would fall far short of the requirements of civil engineering training, although it may turn out good subordinates which is all that the Hon'ble Mr. Finnimore seems to aim at. If the Hon'ble Mr. Finnimore's proposition is carried forward, my friend the Hon'ble Dr. Nilratan Sarkar, with his fat fee of Rs. 16, can claim that there should be a medical college for high class doctors like him and another for the practitioners whose fee does not exceed Rs. 4. The successful Indian engineers in Bengal, like Rai A. P. Sarkar, and a number of others whose names are well known, cannot claim to have had exclusive training of the kind suggested nor did they need it. We have got to go to the same college and take our chance. If it be our *kismat* to earn only Rs. 80 a month, we must be content with that if we cannot put forth better material; but nobody can say from beforehand as to who would turn out a Rai A. P. Sarkar and who not. My Lord, the Hon'ble Mr. Finnimore's proposal for a separate college for turning out subordinates will not find acceptance in expert circles. There are many aspects of the question to consider. Exceptions can be taken to the duplication of the college staffs, of laboratories, libraries, and so on—

[*Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur.*]

one set for the higher training and one for the lower for both have been found capable of location in the same college, and of common treatment up to a certain stage which means considerable saving in expenditure. Regarding the lower subordinate staff—the sub-overseers—this principle may possibly be followed and is to a certain extent followed. But regarding the general provision, this principle can never apply.

My Lord, much has been said of the extreme unhealthiness of Sibpur. This question was raised when the Ranchi proposal was first made. Ranchi was to have a model college, an engineering college, everything in fact except the Medical College which was thought to be too elaborate to be safely removed. When that idea was dispelled for reasons other than those referred to by the Hon'ble Mr. Lyon, people were content to fall back upon their old resources at Sibpur and saw a thousand favourable aspects which were never thought of before. Apart from that, health in Sibpur is as good as anywhere else. It has been improved, and, may be further improved. The teaching staff and the buildings if they are found insufficient may also be improved. As for Dacca, it may have an engineering college of its own. We don't object to that. But there is no reason why Sibpur College should be removed from its present site."

The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR said :—

"My Lord, I do not think that any of my countrymen will be slow to acknowledge with gratitude the promise of establishing a Technological Institute in Calcutta. At the same time, we wish to associate ourselves with the observations that have been made with reference to the Resolution moved by the Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Ray, and we think that the abolition of a higher grade engineering college, viz., the Sibpur College, is a thing which is not welcomed by the community to which we belong.

My Lord, we have all listened to the able and lucid speech of the Hon'ble Mr. Lyon, and as far as we gather, Government—as we all know—are very anxious to give every facility for the expansion of education—literary or scientific—in the country. But the arrangements that are proposed to be made do not show what expansion is to be given to the engineering education on this side of Bengal. I have closely followed the speech of the Hon'ble Mr. Finnimore and I think he is quite right in saying that the number of B.E.'s. that are turned out by the Calcutta University do not find that adequate employment which is commensurate to the education that they receive, and this fact engenders a certain amount of dissatisfaction.

My Lord, I believe that it is one of the reasons for which it is intended to restrict the number of higher colleges for engineering education in Bengal, that it is not found possible to give employment to all highly-trained men either under Government or under local bodies. I have some experience of local bodies; and although in the Calcutta Corporation we have been successful to a certain extent in securing the admission of highly-trained Indians in higher appointments, there are some local bodies where we find that there is an inclination of importing men from outside India and to stifle the scope for the employment of talented men who have been brought up in this country. If, my Lord, the door is wide open to all who come out of higher grade colleges, whether in this country or abroad, I think that the country's dissatisfaction which is engendered by highly-trained men not receiving that adequate recognition of their abilities and talents will, to a considerable extent, disappear. I do not think that it is intended to restrict the number of higher grade colleges in Bengal. If it is necessary, by all means let us have a higher grade engineering college in Dacca; but why should Calcutta or its vicinity be deprived of the College which it already possesses? As far as we have been able to gather, no facts or figures or convincing arguments have been adduced for the entire disappearance of a high-grade college from Calcutta; and I believe that this will considerably affect the engineering education of our boys on this side of Bengal. People who are anxious to give their sons proper engineering education will not have that facility which they now enjoy, and boys who have a natural aptitude for engineering will not also have the same facility which they at present enjoy.

[*Rai Nalinaksha Basu Bahadur.*]

Before I conclude, I wish to quote from the observation of a distinguished countryman of ours, Sir Rajendra Mukharji, whose opinion is held in esteem by the Government. He very moderately put forward that, in view of the important building and other construction works that have been executed in Calcutta, this is the best centre in the Province for instruction in engineering. The meeting agreed that a civil engineering college up to, and including, the overseer classes should be at Calcutta and that for higher-grade teaching this would also be the best place if financial considerations admit of this being undertaken. Government have generously allotted from year to year a certain sum of money for the expansion of education and I do not think that funds will be wanting for establishing not only one college here on this side of Bengal but another college, if necessary, in East Bengal for the promotion of engineering education. With these few words, my Lord, I beg to support the motion of my friend the Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Ray, although I may differ with him as regards the wording of his motion."

The Hon'ble RAI NALINAKSHA BASU BAHADUR said :—

"My Lord, I beg to support the motion of my hon'ble friend Mr. Surendra Nath Ray that the proposal to abolish the Engineering College at Sibpur be dropped, and that the said College be either retained at Sibpur, or, if its present site is considered unsuitable, be removed to a suitable site in Calcutta or its vicinity, or be made a branch of the proposed Technological Institute in Calcutta. My Lord, when the Cooper's Hill College was in existence, a considerable number of Bengal students used to prosecute their studies in higher branches of engineering there, but it has been closed. The Thomason College at Roorkee was previously open to our students, and an appreciable number of our boys passed their examinations from that college with great credit to themselves; but it has positively shut its doors against them and that the only college in Bengal where the Bengal students now receive their training in higher subjects of engineering, etc., is the Engineering College at Sibpur, and I believe that, owing to want of seats there, many students are compelled to go to Poona to take admission to the Engineering College there. We regret to hear that it is going to be done away with, and in its place an Engineering College at Dacca is going to be established. My Lord, if what we have heard is true, there can be no doubt that Western Bengal would be a great loser on account of the removal of the College. We have been given to understand that a great Technological Institute, in which instructions up to a high standard will be given in subjects such as mechanical and electrical engineering and technological chemistry, is going to be established at Calcutta, and that the institute will be affiliated to the Calcutta University, and we are also aware that on an enquiry to bring the Technological Institute into closer touch and more practical relations with the employers of labour in India, Lieutenant-Colonel Atkinson and Mr. T. S. Dawson have recommended that an institution for civil, mechanical and electrical engineering and for industrial chemistry be established on the outskirts of Calcutta. As Sibpur, where the College is now situated, is very close to Calcutta, in which a large number of big engineering firms are located, there can be no doubt that this college is likely to serve the purpose mentioned by the above authorities. I do not understand why the College should not be further improved and made a department of the Government, the Technological Institute to be established hereafter. If the present site of the College is unsuitable, or has already been transferred, the College can be conveniently located in some other place in Calcutta or in its neighbourhood. It is said that Dacca has an apprentice department, but Sibpur has also such a department, and, moreover, there are many technical schools in Western Bengal which have been affiliated to the Sibpur College, and I cannot conceive why a new college is going to be established at Dacca without improving the existing College at Sibpur and making it a department of the proposed Technological Institute. It is to be borne in mind that the purpose mentioned by the abovenamed authorities, viz., Colonel Atkinson and Mr. Dawson, cannot be served if the college be located in any place which is at some distance

[*Mr. Hornell.*]

from Calcutta. If, in the opinion of the Government, an engineering college is needed for the benefit of Eastern Bengal at Dacca, we have no objection to the establishment of one there; but there does not exist any cogent reason why the Sibpur College should be done away with. It is an admitted fact, my Lord, that the College has done excellent work and has turned out fully-qualified men who have done honour to the service in which they have been employed."

The Hon'ble MR. HORNELL said :—

My Lord, I intervene at this moment of the debate, but I do so mainly because I find it exceedingly difficult to understand exactly what my hon'ble friends opposite are advocating. The resolution reads :—

This Council recommends to the Governor in Council that the proposal to abolish the Engineering College at Sibpur be dropped, and that the said College be either retained at Sibpur, or, if its present site is considered unsuitable,—

(*i*) be removed to a suitable site in Calcutta or its immediate vicinity, or

(*ii*) be made a branch of the proposed Technological Institute in Calcutta.

In the course of the speech which he delivered, the Hon'ble Mr. Finnimore pointed out that the Sibpur Engineering College at present contained very many different branches, and he put forward the view, which has a great deal of expert opinion behind it, that the training of Civil Engineers of the highest classes would be better carried out in an institution for higher civil engineering, and is not done at its best, if it is combined in one institution with the training of those who are being brought up to be definitely subordinates. Then the discussion seemed to me to wander a certain amount, but it was brought back by the Hon'ble Babu Mahendra Nath Ray, who made it quite clear that his view was, that whatever rearrangement the Government might undertake with regard to the existing conditions at Sibpur, he could not support that rearrangement unless one of the outcomes of it was that there should be a college in or near Calcutta for the training of Civil Engineers of the highest class. He did not, I think wisely, touch upon the difficulty involved in the argument that it is not considered desirable that civil engineers of the highest class and persons of the overseer class should be trained in one and the same institution, and I imagine that his point of view was that that was a matter for experts; but that all that he wished to insist upon was that there should be in or near Calcutta always a college for the training of civil engineers of the highest class. The Hon'ble Mr. Finnimore in his speech gave what seemed to me to be excellent reasons for thinking that civil engineers of the highest class are better trained in an institution which devotes its energies to them, and does not attempt to take up all grades of engineering. And he said, and it seemed to me also to be very true, that people who were trained to be civil engineers and who had hopes perhaps of entering the Public Works Department as Assistant Engineers did not make the best subordinates and the best sub-overseers and such like though they were often driven, or at least were willing, to enter the Public Works Department in that capacity. He suggested that they were not perhaps quite satisfied with the prospects of such employment as they had been able to obtain, and he also gave reasons for supposing that if you wished to train a man for a sub-overseer or an overseer, perhaps the course of his training for that object should not be quite the same as that required for a civil engineer of the highest class. The Hon'ble Dr. Deba Prasad Sarbadhikari started by saying that he was in favour of an Imperial College, but then I gathered that he was not in favour of any college or any scheme which excluded the possibility of there being, or rather excluded the certainty of there being, a Civil Engineering College of the highest class in Calcutta. I fail to see how you can be in favour of an Imperial College and at the same time qualify your attitude by the statement that you are only in favour of a scheme of that kind, if the College is to be located in Calcutta. A great deal has been said about the necessity of such an institution being in Calcutta, but

[*Mr. Hornell; Mr. Byomkes Chakravarti.*]

I have listened in vain for any argument in favour of such a contention other than the argument that the Civil Engineering College should be situated in proximity to industries. Suggestions have been made by the Hon'ble Mr. Finnimore which seem to traverse that principle to a certain extent, but I do not wish to labour this point. I think it is certainly a matter of opinion. The point I wish to make clear is this: If it is desirable that civil engineers of the highest grade should be trained in institutions apart from overseers, then clearly the existing arrangements at Sibpur cannot be continued indefinitely. The Hon'ble Dr. Deba Prasad Sarbadhikari, in the latter part of his speech, seemed to think that the existing arrangements at Sibpur were extremely desirable, for he said, why should not overseers be trained along with the engineers? who is to know who is going to be the engineer and who is going to be the overseer? should there not be, in that case, if the argument holds good, two medical colleges at one of which successful practitioners should be trained, while the unsuccessful people who have to take lesser positions in life would be trained in another? It seems to me the argument as regards the medical colleges would be rather,—is it desirable, would it be always desirable, to give to those who are being trained to be such people as compounders the education you would give to a man who was going to be a full fledged doctor? It seems to me that the Hon'ble Mr. Finnimore's point was that, if a man who was trained to be a doctor had to face life as a compounder, he would be a discontented compounder, and probably he would have been a better man, if his training had been more closely directed towards compounding. Unless the Council are prepared to accept the view that the training of engineers of all classes should be continued in the same institution, they cannot, I think, acquiesce in the suggestion that the arrangements at Sibpur should remain unchanged. Nor can they, it seems to me, advocate as a possible alternative to the arrangements now made at Sibpur, that there should be at the Technological Institute, civil engineering classes, because the Technological Institute will be concerned not with the training of civil engineers in the first instance, but with the training of people for various industries, which is a very different thing. Therefore what I wish to make quite clear is this—are the Council going to accept the view that separate provision for the training of civil engineers of the highest class is desirable? If it is, then the continuance of Sibpur in its present state is obviously undesirable and the opening of civil engineering classes in a Technological Institute in Calcutta will not meet the difficulty."

The Hon'ble MR. BYOMKES CHAKRAVARTI said:—

"My LORD, I desire to add a few words in support of the Resolution, and my claim to take up the time of this House for a few minutes is based upon the fact that in early life I was for a period of about 15 months a Professor in the Sibpur Engineering College—Professor of Mathematics and Physical Science. I have not been there very recently, and therefore I cannot speak with any degree of personal experience as to what has been happening there since my time. When I was there, although in point of fact there was one institution for the training of various grades of engineers and overseers, in reality there were four institutions, because there was a class A, there was a class B, there was a class C, and there was a class D. The teaching staff was different, the training was different, the arrangements for their education were different, and therefore I do not think that by association in the same place they suffered in any way at all. To my mind the question seems to be this: in or about Calcutta there has been an institution teaching higher grades of civil engineering: The point is whether a case has been made out that it should cease to exist where it has existed for at least 30 years, and that a new institution should be started at Dacca for the benefit of all, as I understand, on the ground that there will be a healthy emulation, inasmuch as there is going to be a teaching University at Dacca. So far as the advantages of a teaching university are concerned, at Sibpur most of the students are resident students, and they have to emulate with one another. I rather think, speaking as a lawyer, that the onus has been wrongly placed

[*Mr. Byomkes Chakravarti; Mr. Sinha.*]

on this side of the House; we, supporting this Resolution, say that the onus is on the other side of the House. It is said that the existing state of affairs should be changed, and that the institution should be transplanted from Calcutta to Dacca, and for that, so far as I have been able to gather, the reason is that there is going to be a teaching university at Dacca. If your funds allow; if you will be able to get a sufficient number of students from that part of the country, have an institution for the teaching of higher civil engineering in that part of the country by all means; but what we do say is that here we have had an institution for the last 30 years, and it is for the convenience of all; it is not for the convenience of only, say, Hindus or Muhammadans. I speak with a certain degree of experience with regard to the members of the domiciled community that there are a great many of them who will find it rather hard if they have to go from this part of the country to Dacca for the purposes of their education. As regards unhealthiness, I lived at Sibpur. I lived there continuously for 15 months. I did not die, nor did any of the staff in my time die, nor do I remember any of the students dying there on account of malaria or cholera; so that if it was not unhealthy 30 years ago, I do not think that, with all the sanitary improvements which have been made there, Sibpur is unhealthier now than it used to be 30 years go. The point is this: it will be a great hardship. The country is very large, and with regard to this part of the country, for example, a man going from Burdwan to Dacca, he does not want to go so far away from his home for purposes of education. You have an institution. Do not destroy it. Then, it is said that there are discontented people. They may be justly discontented; if they are deserving and do not get higher appointments, then their discontent is justified. On the other hand, if they are not qualified, and they are discontented, then they have only to blame themselves. I do not know the working of the Public Works Department, nor do I know the working of the public bodies who have to employ engineers; but this I do know that, if in point of fact there is only fair play, and no question of favour or imported labour—that imported labour should be preferred to the labour of the country—then I say, and I speak with a certain degree of insistence, that the members of the Sibpur Engineering College have done remarkably well. There was a student of mine of the name of Mr. Ward. I do not know where he is employed now, but I was told when I came back from England after some years that he was doing remarkably well, and he was trained under me, an Indian, in the Sibpur Engineering College; so it is idle to suggest that you only create a number of discontented men. There is bound to be discontent if the reason for the selection is not quite a fair one, that is, if there is any question of imported labour being preferred to labour of the country. With these words I support the Resolution."

The Hon'ble Mr. Sinha said:—

"May I venture to add a few remarks to what has been said? I think that there has been considerable misunderstanding in the matter. I followed the Hon'ble Mr. Lyon very carefully, and I think it was his advice to the Council not to come to any present decision on this question, and not to make any definite recommendation as to whether the college should or should not be retained in Sibpur; and I understand that the reason why my hon'ble friend recommended that course was this: that the Public Services Commission, which has had this matter before it for consideration, may make recommendations which might necessitate, at any rate, the reconsideration of any decision which we might come to now. Well, I thought that that was an extremely forcible argument. I have no doubt that it is; but surely, if that is the advice to the Council, it must also be the intention of the Government, and that is what I think my hon'ble friends on this side have not understood. It must be the intention of the Government to come to no decision on this question as to whether the College should or should not be removed. If the Hon'ble Mr. Lyon asks us not to come to any decision as regards this matter, it connotes—it necessarily connotes—that the Hon'ble Mr. Lyon and the Government of which he is a member have not come to any decision themselves on this question,

[*Mr. Lyon; Mr. Sinha; Babu Surendra Nath Ray.*]

and that they are going to hold their hands, that they are not going to determine and conclude the matter unless and until they have the recommendations of the Public Services Commission, or unless the matter has been considered in the light of such recommendations as may be made. If, therefore, I am right in that, that the Hon'ble Mr. Lyon's advice to the Council not to make any definite recommendation is based on the idea that subsequent events may compel them to reconsider their decision, it applies equally to Government, and I do not understand why it should be difficult for Government to give an assurance to the non-official members on this side of the House that no decision will be come to, and no change will be made, unless and until the recommendations of the Public Services Commission have been made and considered."

The Hon'ble MR. LYON said :—

"The point raised by the Hon'ble Mr. Sinha is so important that I think it is desirable that I should say something with reference to it. I do not propose to go back on the previous debate, as the remarks by various non-official members have been dealt with on behalf of Government by the Hon'ble Mr. Hornell and the Hon'ble Mr. Finnimore—but with reference to the question of what will be proposed by the Public Services Commission, I can say that, so far as we are concerned, the final decision as to the complete arrangements to be made for the training of assistant engineers will certainly not be concluded, and cannot be concluded, until the Public Services Commission have reported. And one important reason for this is, that any recommendation made by the Public Services Commission will have to be considered by the highest authorities before final orders on the subject can be passed. But I must qualify my statement in one respect. We are not the only persons, as I pointed out in my first speech, who are considering this subject. Certain proposals have gone up to the Government of India and to the Secretary of State, and it would of course be quite impossible for me or for this Local Government to give any undertaking in this Council on the subject of the action to be taken by them on these matters.

The question of the establishment of a Technological Institute in Calcutta may also have to go up to the Government of India, and I do not think the Hon'ble Member would wish us to postpone indefinitely the proposals as regards the Technological Institute, for the reason that the pupils of the Technological Institute are not those whose careers will be dealt with by the Public Services Commission."

The Hon'ble MR. SINHA said :—

"I do not for one moment mean that the Government should not proceed to consider matters. All I did say was that the Government should not come to a decision."

The Hon'ble MR. LYON said :—

"My difficulty goes slightly beyond that, in that we shall deal with this matter without reference to our present proceedings, because the pupils of the Technological Institute are not those whose careers will be dealt with by the Public Services Commission. But I may say that it seems to this Government perfectly clear that the question of the training to be afforded to civil engineers will not be completely dealt with and settled, so far as the Government of Bengal is concerned, before the Public Services Commission has considered the subject."

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH RAY said :—

"After the statement just made by the Hon'ble Mr. Lyon, I think it proper to withdraw my Resolution."

The Resolution was then, by the permission of the President, withdrawn.

[*The President; Babu Surendra Nath Banerji; Maharajadhiraja of Burdwan.*]

ADJOURNMENT.

The PRESIDENT said :—

"There are further Resolutions, but it has been suggested to me that, as to-day is Saturday, the majority of the Members of this Council may possibly not wish to return after the usual lunch interval, but would prefer to adjourn till Monday. On the other hand, there may be some who would prefer to go on."

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI said :—

"Monday would suit us very well. I do not think it will take more than two hours to discuss the remaining business, and most of us would prefer Monday."

The Hon'ble MAHARAJADHIRAJA OF BURDWAN said :—

"I agree with Babu Surendra Nath Banerji, and would prefer to continue on Monday."

The PRESIDENT said :—

"The Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Banerji probably knows how long it will take to finish the remaining business better than I do. There is, it seems, a general feeling in favour of the Council being adjourned till Monday. I will adjourn till Monday accordingly."

The Council was then adjourned to Monday, the 2nd March, 1914, at 11 A.M.

A. W. WATSON,

Secy. to the Bengal Legislative Council.

CALCUTTA,

The 2nd March, 1914.

Abstract of the Proceedings of the Bengal Legislative Council assembled under the provisions of the Indian Councils Acts, 1861, 1892 and 1909, and the Government of India Act, 1912.

THE Council met in the Council Chamber in Government House on Monday, the 2nd March 1914, at 11 A.M.

Present :

His Excellency the Right Hon'ble THOMAS DAVID, BARON CARMICHAEL OF SKIRLING, G.C.I.E., K.C.M.G., Governor of the Presidency of Fort William in Bengal, *presiding*.

The Hon'ble SIR FREDERICK WILLIAM DUKE, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., *Vice-President*.

The Hon'ble MR. P. C. LYON, C.S.I.

The Hon'ble NAWAB SYED SHAMS-UL-HUDA.

The Hon'ble MR. C. J. STEVENSON-MOORE, C.V.O.

The Hon'ble MR. F. J. MONAHAN.

The Hon'ble MR. J. G. CUMMING, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. B. K. FINNIMORE.

The Hon'ble MR. J. H. KERR, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. H. L. STEPHENSON, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. H. F. SAMMAN.

The Hon'ble MR. C. H. BOMPAS.

The Hon'ble MR. C. F. PAYNE.

The Hon'ble RAI PRIYA NATH MUKHARJI BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble MR. A. N. MOBERLY.

The Hon'ble COL. G. F. A. HARRIS, C.S.I.

The Hon'ble MR. H. J. HILARY.

The Hon'ble DR. NILRATAN SARKAR.

The Hon'ble RAJA HRISHIKESH LAHA, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. R. GLEN.

[*The President.*]

The Hon'ble MR. E. A. MARTIN.

The Hon'ble SIR BIJAY CHAND MAHTAB, K.C.S.I., K.C.I.E., I.O.M., Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan.

The Hon'ble DR. DEBA PRASAD SARBADHIKARI.

The Hon'ble MR. J. G. APCAR.

The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR

The Hon'ble MR. NORMAN McLEOD

The Hon'ble MR. J. C. SHORROCK.

The Hon'ble MR. G. A. BAYLEY.

The Hon'ble MR. A. W. C. CHAPLIN.

The Hon'ble MR. GOLAM HOSSEIN CASSIM ARIFF.

The Hon'ble MAULVI MAZHARUL ANWAR CHAUDHURI.

The Hon'ble RAI NALINAKSHA BASU BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble RAJA MAHENDRA RANJAN RAY CHAUDHURI.

The Hon'ble NAWAB SAIYID NAWAB ALI CHAUDHURI, KHAN BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI.

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH RAY.

The Hon'ble RAI HARI MOHAN CHANDRA BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble BABU UPENDRA LAL RAY.

DEATH OF LORD MINTO, LATE VICEROY AND GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF INDIA.

His Excellency the President having taken the chair rose and addressed the Council (who all remained standing) as follows :—

"I feel sure that Hon'ble Members will agree with me that it is only right that this Council should at once adjourn out of respect for the memory of one with whom this place—this very room—is closely associated, and who passed away yesterday. I need say but little. Lord Minto left India only a few years ago, and many of you knew him and loved him. I am certain that in Calcutta, in Bengal, sorrow is to-day widespread, and that it is a very genuine and heartfelt sympathy which goes out to his widow and to his children.

Five consecutive generations (as he himself once reminded you) of his family lived within this building—that in itself is a remarkable thing which Bengal is not likely to forget. I am tempted to recall to you some lines which he himself quoted with approbation :—

> "The nerve unshaken by mischance,
> The care unlessened by success ;
> And modest bearing to enhance
> The natural charm of manliness."

There must be many looking back just now with admiration on those very qualities of his, for it was those very qualities which endeared him to all who knew him both as Viceroy and as man.

For us here the thought uppermost in our minds probably is—that it was in this room, little more than four years ago, that he welcomed "the members of the newly-constituted Imperial Council on their first assembly at the capital of the Indian Empire." Our Council is the direct outcome of the reforms which Lord Minto then inaugurated and of which he spoke so hopefully.

You remember his statement of belief that "the fellow service of British and Indian administrators under a supreme British Government is the key to the future political happiness of this country." We recognise that Lord Minto worked hard for India in that belief and, recognising that, we honour his memory.

This Council stands adjourned until to-morrow at 11 A.M."

A. W. WATSON,

Secy. to the Bengal Legislative Council

CALCUTTA ;

The 3rd March, 1914

B. S. Press—4-4-1914—4222J—500—C. A. P.

Abstract of the Proceedings of the Bengal Legislative Council assembled under the provisions of the Indian Councils Acts, 1861, 1892 and 1909, and the Government of India Act, 1912.

THE Council met in the Council Chamber in Government House on Tuesday, the 3rd March, 1914, at 11 A.M.

Present:

His Excellency the Right Hon'ble THOMAS DAVID, BARON CARMICHAEL OF SKIRLING, G.C.I.E., K.C.M.G., Governor of the Presidency of Fort William in Bengal, *presiding.*

The Hon'ble SIR FREDERICK WILLIAM DUKE, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., *Vice-President.*

The Hon'ble MR. P. C. LYON, C.S.I.

The Hon'ble NAWAB SYED SHAMS-UL-HUDA.

The Hon'ble MR. C. J. STEVENSON-MOORE, C.V.O.

The Hon'ble MR. F. J. MONAHAN.

The Hon'ble MR. J. G. CUMMING, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. B. K. FINNIMORE.

The Hon'ble MR. J. H. KERR, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. H. L. STEPHENSON, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. H. F. SAMMAN.

The Hon'ble MR. C. H. BOMPAS.

The Hon'ble MR. C. F. PAYNE.

The Hon'ble RAI PRIYA NATH MUKHARJI BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble MR. A. N. MOBERLY.

The Hon'ble COL. G. F. A. HARRIS, C.S.I.

The Hon'ble MR. H. J. HILARY.

The Hon'ble NAWAB SIR KHWAJA SALIMULLAH BAHADUR, G.C.I.E., K.C.S.I.

The Hon'ble DR. NILRATAN SARKAR.

The Hon'ble RAJA HRISHIKESH LAHA, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. R. GLEN.

The Hon'ble SIR BIJAY CHAND MAHTAB, K.C.S.I., K.C.I.E., I.O.M., Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan.

The Hon'ble DR. DEBA PRASAD SARBADHIKARI.

The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble MR. NORMAN McLEOD.

The Hon'ble MR. J. C. SHORROCK.

The Hon'ble MR. W. T. GRICE.

The Hon'ble MR. G. A. BAYLLY.

The Hon'ble MR. GOLAM HOSSEIN CASSIM ARIFI.

The Hon'ble MAULVI MAZHARUL ANWAR CHAUDHURI

The Hon'ble RAJA MAHENDRA RANJAN RAY CHAUDHURI.

The Hon'ble NAWAB SAIYID NAWAB ALI CHAUDHURI, KHAN BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH RAY.

The Hon'ble BABU MAHENDRA NATH RAY.

The Hon'ble RAI HARI MOHAN CHANDRA BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble BABU UPENDRA LAL RAY.

RESOLUTIONS

(*Under the Rules for the discussion of matters of general public interest*).

(The discussion of items Nos. 7, 8 and 9 of the List of Business, which had been held over from the meeting of the 28th February, was to-day proceeded with.)

List of Business—Item No. 7.—The Hon'ble RAJA MAHENDRA RANJAN RAY CHAUDHURI moved the following Resolution :—

This Council recommends to the Governor in Council the appointment of a committee, to be composed of official and non-official Members of the Council (of whom the Inspector-General of Civil Hospitals, Bengal, shall be one) and of representatives of District Boards and Local Boards from each Division of this Province, for the purpose of—

(*i*) inquiring into the causes of the recent rise in the ratio of infantile mortality in this Presidency, and

(*ii*) recommending such remedial and preventive measures as may be deemed to be best calculated to reduce the same.

He said :—

"My Lord, I am grateful to your Lordship for permitting me to move this Resolution on the important subject of infant mortality. I speak on the subject with considerable diffidence as, owing to the shortness of time at my disposal, I found it was impossible to give the subject the amount of close study and attention it called for. There is a great deal of literature regarding infant life and there are many interesting works dealing with it, some of which, if I had time, I should have very much liked to have looked up. I trust, however, that my inability to deal adequately with the question will not prejudice the cause which my Resolution has in

[*Raja Mahendra Ranjan Ray Chaudhuri.*]

view. It is really high time that the subject of infantile mortality in Bengal received the serious attention of the Government and representative public men. I think I cannot do better than quote here a passage from a Resolution by Your Excellency's Government on the subject, dated the 14th July, 1913, reviewing the Census Report by Mr. O'Malley, Superintendent of Census Operations, Bengal. Paragraph 9 of the Resolution runs thus: 'The rate of infant mortality is appalling. One child out of every five dies within a year of birth. Calcutta, in spite of its good sanitation and good water-supply, heads the list with a death-rate among infants of 31 per cent. Early marriage, utter ignorance of the simplest rules of hygiene, insanitary surroundings, and, among the parents of the labouring classes, poverty, which compels the mother to work almost up to the day of her confinement, are among the causes which reduce the chances of a child's surviving the early stages of its life.'

In view of this Resolution of the Government of Bengal and the facts it brings to light, further efforts on my part, to support the Resolution I have had the honour to move, seem scarcely necessary. But, nevertheless, I must endeavour to strengthen my case, if that is possible, by quoting some more facts and figures from the official report. Mr. O'Malley, in his Census Report, admits the rate of infant mortality as being extraordinarily high. In West Bengal the rate is 22 deaths in every 100 of infants in the first year of their birth; North Bengal, 21 per cent. and Central Bengal, 20 per cent.; it is comparatively low in East Bengal, where the rate is 18 per cent., and in Calcutta 31 infants out of every 100 die in the year of their birth, bringing sorrow into numerous homes. In North Bengal, Jalpaiguri has attained notoriety as being the most deadly place, with its appalling rate of 27 per cent., or 270 per mille. Burdwan ranks next with its 24 per cent., Dinajpur keeping abreast with Burdwan; Noakhali shows some improvement, with its ratio of 15 per cent., and Tippera has a ratio of 16 per cent. In England and Wales the annual average death-rate among children is very much lower and, certainly, not more than 15 per cent., including London. In 1907, the death-rate in England and Wales reached the minimum, having been only 118 per 1,000 or 11·8 per cent., which is, roughly speaking, about one-third the ratio prevailing in Calcutta. Pages could be filled with extracts and quotations from recognised authoritative works on the subject to show that the proportion of infant deaths in Bengal has reached a climax, when it can no longer be viewed with equanimity. The figures themselves are too sufficiently eloquent and pathetic to need the use of any words and are calculated to appeal to our feelings of humanity, and rouse us to action for the mitigation of the evil. It is amply true that Heaven helps those who help themselves; but, at the same time, it is a universally-admitted axiom that our first duty lies towards those who are most helpless and dependent on others, and I feel sure that this dreadful state of things in regard to infant mortality has only to be brought to the notice of the Government in a proper way to be remedied so far as it lies in their power. For there are no two opinions about the fact that the British Government is always actuated by the highest humanitarian principles, and humanity has always been one of its most dominant and conspicuous traits. It is quite true that there are certain causes extant which have a very prejudicial influence upon the lives of infants in the very early stages, and there are also certain other causes which diminish the chances of infant life, and which are at the same time beyond the control of human power, such as hereditary diseases, congenital defects, and climatic conditions. But, on the other hand, it is equally true that there are many causes operating inimically to infant life which are to a great extent preventable, such as feeding with improper and impure food, dangerous exposure to highly insanitary surroundings filled with germs of malaria, cholera, tetanus and other deadly and fatal diseases. The ignorance of parents, and especially of mothers, of simple rules of domestic hygiene, and early marriages are also among the chief reasons which are said to greatly contribute to the increase of infant mortality; but, my Lord, education and knowledge are

[*Raja Mahendra Ranjan Ray Chaudhuri.*]

spreading, and the evil of early marriage is daily dying out, and yet mortality amongst infants is on the increase, and if ignorance of science and hygiene were such potential causes of the death-rate among the little ones, I should think all the semi-civilised and totally-uncivilised tribes and races would long ago have been wiped off the face of the earth. But, perhaps, some of them show greater virility and stamina than our race, which is practically a race of students, and counts amongst it millions of followers of the goddess Saraswati. While I do not for a moment suggest that ignorance of ordinary rules of hygiene and domestic sanitation, and a want of skilled knowledge in the art of rearing infants are not injurious to infant life, I should like to make it clear that my deep conviction is that the general abject poverty amongst a large portion of the masses, and deteriorated physique and constitution, and the great scarcity of milk constitute by far the greater and more powerful evils which tend to produce this deplorable state of things. If malaria can be rooted out from the country, and the people of Bengal saved from being sapped by this deadly monster, if the channels and sources to bring sustenance to the people could be multiplied and developed, and if the gradual disappearance of cattle could be effectively checked and arrested, I think, my Lord, even in spite of the popular ignorance of hygiene and science of life, mothers would not so frequently be robbed of the joy and pleasure of their lives, and bury their babes in clouds of grief, and sorrow would not so often cast a gloom over bright and cheerful homes.

As practical measures, however, against this great evil, the mitigation of which I am sure the Government has as much at heart as we have, I would venture to suggest the following :—

(1) that the Education Department be urged to add instruction in elementary hygiene, with reference to the dietary and rearing of infants to the present curriculum followed in the schools;

(2) that the Government do establish or support depôts for the supply of pure milk, and defray the cost out of the exchequer, or have such depôts established or supported by District Boards or Municipalities and give them substantial pecuniary aid;

(3) that legislation be undertaken to provide for the payment of a fee of at least five rupees for the slaughtering of a young cow before it has calved, and to provide adequate arrangement for pasture;

(4) that legislation be undertaken to enforce abstention from factory or any kind of hired labour away from home for at least three months commencing immediately before the expected time of confinement;

(5) that all preparations offered or sold as food for infants must be examined by an analyst and passed by him as non-injurious.

(6) that trained *dais* and nurses be posted in all important villages possessing a charitable or aided hospital or dispensary and directed to attend confinement cases amongst the poor gratis or at a nominal fee;

(7) that legislation should be undertaken immediately to render the sale of adulterated milk much more difficult and risky than at present, and the offence easily detectable and more highly punishable. At present about 8 per cent. or more of the supplies of milk offered for sale are adulterated or watered, or the cream abstracted fraudulently. Milk, as is well known, is the best medium for bacteria to multiply in;

(8) a scheme of free-lying-in hospitals for the poor may be formulated and gradually given effect to.

[*Nawab Syed Shams-ul-Huda; Raja Mahendra Ranjan Ray Chaudhuri; Maulvi Mazharul Anwar Chaudhuri.*]

I do not know, my Lord, what the fate of my Resolution is going to be; accepted or not, it is true that action lies entirely in the power of the Government and a committee can only advise and discuss matters. I have no intention of persisting in my demand for a committee, if Government think they can do whatever is possible to be done in the matter without such a committee. I only sincerely regret the present deplorable high proportion of infant mortality, and earnestly wish the adoption of prompt measures for its arrest and reduction. That is all I seek and nothing more, and I leave to Your Excellency's generous and just mind and to Your Excellency's Government the determining of the means best calculated to attain this object, though I must add the acceptance of the Resolution and the appointment of a special committee as asked for would go a great way in attracting the attention of the authorities, as well as of the people, to this important matter and in marking, I might say, the beginning of a period of improvement."

The Hon'ble NAWAB SYED SHAMS-UL-HUDA said :—

"My Lord, I am at some disadvantage in meeting from the Government side the Resolution which is moved by my hon'ble friend, as he was not quite audible from this side of the house. However, I have been able to obtain a general idea of his arguments, and I can at once say that we are obliged to him for drawing attention to this important matter.

Government are fully alive to the importance of the question and the necessity for remedial measures. The figures for Bengal, though somewhat lower than those for the whole of India, are still very large and we should have gladly accepted the resolution had we been convinced of its utility. But the fact is that there is no necessity for an investigation into the causes or remedies. These are fairly well known and have from time to time occupied the attention of Government. Most of the causes, however, lie too deep to be touched by any spasmodic efforts. In an article that appeared in the 'Journal of the Associated Medical Women of India' from the pen of an expert on the subject, the causes will be found fully discussed. Most important of these is the marriage between immature parents, malarial conditions of the country, the poverty of the parents and, above all, ignorance of the elementary rules of hygiene on the part of the people and their obstinate adherence to certain old usages. The incompetence of the village *dais*, the careless way of cutting and dressing the umbilical cord, which alone is said to be responsible for 20 to 30 per cent. of the total infantile mortality, aggravate the situation. In the year 1904, the Government Resolution on the Annual Sanitary Report drew attention of the Sanitary Commissioner to this question of infantile mortality, and the Sanitary Commissioner submitted a report discussing the causes and suggesting remedial measures. He was then asked to prepare a note containing directions for the care and feeding of infants. This was translated into Bengali, Hindi and Uriya and distributed among villagers through vaccinators. It was, however, found that no one cared to read them. I may, however, assure the Hon'ble Member that we are determined to make a systematic effort to do what we can to combat ignorance and to diffuse knowledge of sanitation and necessary preventive measures among the people, and the Hon'ble Member may rest assured that the discussion he has raised will not be thrown away. I hope that the Hon'ble Member will be satisfied with the assurance and see his way to withdraw the Resolution."

The Hon'ble RAJA MAHENDRA RANJAN RAY CHAUDHURI said :—

"I thank the Hon'ble Member for the assurance he has given that every effort will be made to mitigate this evil, and in view of this assurance I beg Your Excellency's leave to withdraw the Resolution."

The Resolution was then, by leave of the President, withdrawn.

List of Business—Item No. 8.—The Hon'ble Maulvi Mazharul Anwar Chaudhuri moved the following Resolution :—

This Council recommends to His Excellency the Governor in Council that necessary measures be taken, as soon as possible, effectually to protect

[*Maulvi Mazharul Anwar Chaudhuri.*]

the tract of country lying on the right bank of the river Damodar, and situated in the districts of Burdwan, Hooghly and Howrah, from the effects of flooding by that river.

He said :—

"My Lord, the subject of the Resolution which I have the honour to move has a long and sad history, and I hope the Council will bear with me if I seem to be a little long in my remarks. Before the East Indian Railway was constructed, the river Damodar had, from ancient times, embankments on both sides; and the inhabitants of the country on both sides lived in health and prosperity like the people of other parts of Bengal.

From ancient times it was the duty of the Maharaja of Burdwan to keep those embankments in repair as the river flowed through his zamindari.

At the time of the Revenue Settlement of the year 1788 the Raj Estate was given a remission of 60,001 sicca rupees for keeping the bunds on both sides in repair; and this arrangement was confirmed in the year 1791; but, in the year 1809, the Government took up the management and repairs of the embankments, and the Burdwan Raj from that time began to pay, and has ever since been paying, the said sum of 60,001 sicca rupees over and above the revenue which it used to pay before. Parganas Mandalghat and Chetna having been some time after lost to the Burdwan Estate, it has since then been paying 53,738 sicca or 57,320-8-6 in Company's rupees, the balance being realized, I suppose, from those who are in possession of the two parganas—Chetua and Mandalghat.

Thus Your Lordship and the Council will see that in the year 1809 the Government made a solemn compact with the people living on both sides of the river through their zamindar, the Maharaja of Burdwan, to protect them from floods by keeping the embankments in repair.

By the year 1855, however, all this was forgotten; for we find that in that year the Government ordered the removal of 20 miles of embankment on the right or west bank of the Damodar. This was evidently done with the object of protecting the Grand Trunk Road and the East Indian Railway, and to prevent the possible deterioration of the Port of Calcutta by the sand carried down by the river Damodar.

Having regard to the disastrous consequences that have ensued, it is difficult for a native of the luckless country within the flood-zone on the west side of the river to speak of its absolute abandonment to the tender mercies of the Damodar in the language of moderation. It was not only a violation of the guarantee given in 1809, but it looked very like the sacrifice of the interests of the poor and the weak at the altar of those of the rich and strong. I am quite willing to believe that the gentlemen who advised this reckless act did not foresee its terrible consequences; but whether they did foresee them or not, they made themselves felt very quickly indeed. For we find, on the 1st June 1860, the Superintending Engineer, Burdwan Circle, Captain J. P. Beadle, writing to the Chief Engineer, Lower Provinces, about the havoc that had already been done by the Damodar in the country on the west bank and referring to the duty which the Government owed to the people and suggesting measures to minimize the damages. Nothing, however, was done, and very soon after the waters of the river finding resistance on the left or east bank, and none whatever on the right or west bank, cut a new channel at Begua in the Burdwan district and began to devastate an ever-increasing area on the west side, till now we find that about 800 villages, principally in the districts of Hooghly and Burdwan, are inundated every year, to the unspeakable misery and suffering and loss of health and property of the unfortunate people living in them.

My Lord, the condition of these villages is deplorable in the extreme, rich paddy fields have been laid waste by deposit of sand, low-lying marshes

[*Maulvi Mazharul Anwar Chaudhuri.*]

have formed on almost three sides of most of the villages within the affected area, tanks from which people used to draw their supply of drinking water have been silted up, and the waters of those that exist now are rendered unfit for use in the rainy season, being more in the condition of liquid mud than anything else; and the result is that, after each flood, cholera, dysentery and diarrhœa break out in the villages and levy their annual tolls of human lives, and later in the season, when the marshes begin to dry up, fell malaria makes its unwelcome appearance in a more or less epidemic form.

The houses of the people who have the misfortune to live in this part of the country are not safe, and almost every year a large number of mud houses are either washed away or simply tumble down. During these floods, when the surrounding country is submerged, poisonous snakes take shelter in the raised homesteads of the people, and there are always cases of death from snake-bite, some of which are reported and some are not. On an average, every fourth year a flood of more than usual severity makes its appearance, and then a larger number of mud houses are destroyed, and, if this flood comes late in the rainy season, the rice crop on those portions of the fields which are not much damaged during ordinary floods are wholly destroyed and the poor raiyats are left to bemoan their fate without means to support themselves, their families and their cattle.

My Lord, it is beyond my power to describe adequately the miseries and sufferings of the luckless inhabitants of these 800 villages. Your Lordship and the Hon'ble Members of this Council must have gathered some idea of these sufferings from the reports which appeared in the newspapers after the disastrous flood of August last. As a member of the Hooghly Flood Relief Committee I had to distribute charitable relief in thana Arambagh, and I can assure Your Excellency and the Hon'ble Members that those reports were by no means exaggerated. The Hon'ble Mr. Lyon, who visited some portions of the affected area, has some experience of these sufferings, and the statements which the Hon'ble Sir William Duke made in this Council on the 1st of September last also show what the people had to suffer from the last disastrous flood.

My Lord, of the affected area, the villages, within the flood-zone in thanas Arambagh and Pursura are the worst, and these villages are so difficult of access that even the noble band of volunteers who so heroically sacrificed their health and comforts to relieve human suffering after the last flood could not penetrate into most of them. A few years ago the Hooghly District Board allotted a lakh of rupees for the construction of a road from Tarakeshwar to Arambagh; but the idea had to be given up, as engineers were of opinion that the road, if constructed, would be destroyed the very next rainy season. So the subdivision of Arambagh is still without a road connecting it with the headquarters of the district, and the Government officers from the Divisional Canal Commissioner downwards find it extremely difficult to tour in the subdivision. My Lord, it is true that *rabi* crops are grown in scattered patches where there are deposits of silt in some or most of the affected villages, but that is a poor compensation for the permanent loss of the rice crops in the greater part of their fields.

Early in the 'sixties' of the last century the late Rai Rama Prasad Roy Bahadur, together with the late Babu Jay Krista Mukharji of Uttarpara and other leading landholders, drew the attention of the Government to the loss inflicted on them by the removal of the embankment on the right side of the Damodar and claimed compensation for their losses.

Then, in the year 1888, some enquiries were made and a Resolution on the subject was issued by Government (No. 1980 L., dated the 18th December, 1888), and the British Indian Association was asked to express their opinions on the questions discussed therein; and the British Indian Association in its Secretary's letter dated the 23rd May, 1889, to the Secretary in the Public Works Department, while expressing their opinion in the matter, submitted that 'the Revenue Laws generally lay down that zamindars would not be entitled to any remission of revenue for losses

[*Maulvi Mazharul Anwar Chaudhuri.*]

entailed by floods, inundation and diluvion. This, however, contemplates accidental losses beyond the control of man; but the question would be very different when the destruction of miles over miles of fertile land would be the result of deliberate acts of Government. Here the question would naturally arise—Whether the Government should not only grant remission of revenue but also compensation for losses.' Then the letter went on to say that in the case of raiyats the loss would include loss of houses, cattle and human life and that in their case justice and humanity alike demanded that every provision should be made to grant them adequate compensation.

One would have thought that after this the Government would set about devising measures to stop or mitigate the ravages of the annual floods or at the least do nothing to aggravate them. But the facts are quite otherwise; and the acts of the Government which followed seem to indicate that in order to ensure the safety of the Railway and the Port of Calcutta, the Government deliberately determined to abandon the poor and long-suffering people living in the villages on the right bank of the river to their fate and also to aggravate their loss and suffering. My Lord, the above is not in the least coloured or exaggerated; for we find that in 1890 another length of 10 miles of the embankment on the western side of the river was abandoned, and Your Lordship and the Hon'ble Members can well see that the natural consequence of that act was, if anything, to considerably increase the area of devastation. I am quite willing to acknowledge, and I do acknowledge it with gratitude, that since then Government has been taking steps to devise means to alleviate, if not to completely stop, the ravages of the floods.

In the year 1901, the Government was pleased to place Mr. D. B. Horn, Superintending Engineer, on special duty, to report whether any remedial measure could be adopted to mitigate the extent of damage annually caused by the Damodar floods and that distinguished engineer, after thorough enquiry and investigation, submitted his report on the 21st February, 1902, suggesting various measures, one of which he considered the most feasible and the least expensive. This scheme was the training of the Begua river (as the channel about 30 miles in length from the Begua Breach in the district of Burdwan to Fesuli on the left bank of the Rupnarayan is called) by excavating its channel in suitable places and thereby encouraging it to scour its own bed for the speedy discharge of the flood-water.

Mr. Horn also pointed out in his report that, if his plan was adopted, the construction of the Howrah-Bishnupur line would be less expensive by reason of a less number of bridges and culverts being required. The scheme recommended by Mr. Horn was, however, not adopted and it has up to now remained a pious wish only.

Then, in 1906, or 1907, Babu Bhupendra Nath Basu, who has his ancestral house within the affected area, having drawn the attention of the Government to the sufferings of the unhappy people, a survey was made and he was asked by Government (letter No. T.—*L*, dated the 24th May, 1897) to suggest some specific scheme. Paragraph 6 of the letter No. 3219, dated the 13th May, 1907, from the Superintending Engineer to the Chief Engineer, Bengal, which also was sent to Babu Bhupendra Nath Basu, contains the following passage: 'The question of the future action to be taken in the drainage and navigation in this part of the country remains to be considered. There can be no doubt that a very large area had been laid waste by the flood-waters from the Begua Breach and with a view to reduce the damage as much as possible, it is necessary that the water should be drained off as quickly as possible.' Babu Bhupendra Nath Basu agreed with the views of the engineers and recommended the removal of the bars and other impediments to the free and quick discharge of the waters through the Begua river, but even this very small measure of relief was not given in deference to the opinion of the Subdivisional Officer of Arambagh who reported against the scheme.

About this time Rai Lalit Mohan Sing Bahadur of Chuckdighi having persuaded the then Lieutenant-Governor Sir Andrew Fraser to see for

[*Maulvi Mazharul Anwar Chaudhuri.*]

himself the state of things, that kind-hearted ruler actually visited the upper part of the Begua river and expressed great sympathy for the miseries and losses of the long-suffering people and promised speedy relief. The people of the affected area thereupon submitted a memorial through the District Magistrate of Hooghly and the Commissioner of the Burdwan Division, and in reply to his letter forwarding the memorial the Commissioner got a letter from the Secretary to the Board of Revenue (No. 1496 A., dated the 19th November, 1907), which ran as follows :—

'With reference to your letter No. 319, dated the 31st August, 1907, submitting a memorial to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal by a large number of inhabitants on both banks of the river Damodar, I am directed to request that the memorialists may be informed that a definite scheme for improving the tract is now under the consideration of Government.'

Then, in March, 1908, in answer to a question by the Hon'ble Dr. Deba Prasad Sarbadhikari, another inhabitant of the affected country, the then Secretary to the Government of Bengal in the Public Works Department stated : 'The scheme to which the Lieutenant-Governor has accorded administrative approval and which it is intended to carry out at the cost of the general revenue, is the following : It is proposed to make an earthen embankment or dam across the head of the channel where it leaves the Damodar river and to provide for the escape of the flood-waters by means of two long overflows or weirs at the level of the natural bank which will be paved with rubble, stones or concrete blocks. The object aimed at is to retain the low-water flow in the old channel of the Damodar while permitting the flood-water, which is far in excess of what the channel of the river can accommodate, to spill over the bank without cutting a deep channel.'

Then, on the 25th July, 1908, there appeared in the 'Indian Engineering' the following paragraph : 'Bengal Government have, it is understood, approved of a scheme for affording some relief to the country on the right bank of the Damodar river from the permanent liability to inundation which it is subject to at present. The area adversely affected is considerable and the Government think that the large expenditure which is involved in the execution of the proposed scheme, viz., 1½ lakhs of rupees, is quite justified. In the Hooghly district alone the money-value of the crops, which will be saved when relief is afforded, is estimated at 6 lakhs per annum. The Government have also, we believe, decided that the whole cost of the scheme should be met from the Provincial Revenue and that the proprietors of the land should not be required to pay anything.'

The visit of Sir Andrew Fraser to the Begua Hana and the administrative sanction accorded by Government to the scheme of making a weir at Begua raised very high hopes in the breasts of the long-suffering people of the affected area, but these hopes were doomed to sad disappointment, and the sanction of Government accorded to the scheme remains an administrative sanction still.

Then, on the 16th September, 1909, the Hon'ble Dr. Deba Prasad Sarbadhikari forwarded, with a covering letter of his own, another largely-signed memorial of the inhabitants of the locality to the Government of Sir Edward Baker and received the stereotyped reply that the memorial would receive sympathetic consideration.

Thereafter, on the 26th April, 1910, Maharaja Sir Pradyot Kumar Tagore, as Secretary to the British Indian Association, addressed a letter to the Hon'ble Mr. T. Butler, the then Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Public Works Department, in which he requested that the scheme of Mr. Horn might be given effect to by making a weir at the Begua Hana and connecting the Kana Nadi with the Rupnarayan at Bakshi by cutting a small canal and, in reply, the Maharaja received a letter from Mr. Butler (No. 162 T.—I., dated the 2nd May, 1910) to the effect that the subject was under the consideration of the Government.

[*Maulvi Mazharul Anwar Chaudhuri.*]

The Resolution which was moved by the Hon'ble Dr. Deba Prasad Sarbadhikari in March, 1913, and the reply, which was given by the Hon'ble Mr. Lyon, must be fresh in the memory of Your Lordship and of most of the Hon'ble Members of this Council.

My Lord, the losses and sufferings of the people who have the misfortune of living in this part of the country, situated so close to Calcutta, were brought to the knowledge of everybody most vividly by the harrowing tales of woe and misery which appeared in the newspapers after the last disastrous flood, as also from official documents and reports of District Officers.

The attention of Government and of the public was so pointedly directed to the ravages of the last flood because there were breaches in the eastern embankment and the town of Burdwan was flooded and the railway line was breached, resulting in the stoppage of railway communication from Calcutta to Asansol by the East Indian Railway for more than a week. But for these so much would not have been heard about it. Every fourth year we who live in this utterly-neglected part of Bengal are subjected to miseries and losses only a little less in degree, but not much notice is taken of them. Every year some families from a number of villages are leaving their hearths and homes and removing farther west in consequence of their paddy lands having been rendered permanently unculturable and their homes having become uninhabitable. Raiyats are surrendering their holdings and the unfortunate patnidars are throwing up their patnis and thus every year some patnis are put up to sale under Regulation VIII of 1819, and, there being naturally no purchaser, the Maharaja of Burdwan is obliged to buy them in and to take them under his khas management at a loss. These facts must be well known to Government.

For more than half a century we have been suffering without any remedy, and each year our sufferings are being aggravated.

Government, it is true, have all along been considering what measures to adopt, but up to now nothing tangible has been done and the people have been driven to the verge of despair.

A vast amount of literature has grown up round the subject and the Government have from time to time prepared schemes and, almost immediately after, given them up either on the score of expense or on some other ground and the unfortunate people are left to their fate.

It appears from the Hon'ble Mr. Lyon's speech in March last year, in reply to the Resolution moved by Dr. Sarbadhikari, that the matter was under the consideration of Government engineers for a quarter of a century, and surveys have been made and plans prepared in sufficient number. Recently, through the valuable and instructive report of Sir Edward Buck, Government is in possession of all the facts of the Italian system of *Bonificazione*, which, shortly, consists in training or harnessing the rivers, as it is called, and compelling them to deepen their own channels and at the same time to raise the level of the land on either side.

My Lord, it is high time that something was done to put an end to our sufferings. No half-hearted and halting palliative measures will meet the requirements of the grave situation which has come into existence. The evil must be eradicated root and branch.

The Hon'ble Mr. Lyon, in March last year, referred to a scheme of making a huge reservoir in the catchment area of the river in the hills far to the north, which, according to the distinguished engineers, Mr. Horn and the late Mr. Maconchy, was the only really possible and effective solution of the problem; but this scheme was summarily brushed aside on the score of expense, as it was estimated to cost between 32 and 40 lakhs of rupees.

My Lord, a great and prosperous Government like ours ought not to shrink from any measure which would undoubtedly promote the health and prosperity of about 800 villages, with a population of about 4 lakhs, on the score of expense. When it is considered that the scheme of Messrs. Horn

[*Maulvi Mazharul Anwar Chaudhuri.*]

and Maconchy would not only prevent the floods but also improve the sanitation of the area and make the Damodar river navigable throughout or for the greater part of the year, and that above all these it would remove all future danger of breaches on the left or east bank, like those which occurred in August last, the question of expense ought not to be allowed to stand in the way. It appears from Sir Edward Buck's report that Italy has spent in 42 years 42 millions sterling in the beneficent system of river training which has banished malaria from Italy and vastly increased the value of land. I refuse to believe that our highly-qualified and therefore highly-paid engineers, with all their previous experience and the complete information of the Italian system now at their disposal, cannot devise a scheme for training a small river like the Begua, only 30 miles in length. Of course any really effective scheme must be more or less expensive; but expense should not, as I have already said, stand in the way.

It is well known and it also appears from the speech of the Hon'ble Mr. Lyon in Council in March last that the people living on the west bank of the Damodar have been sacrificed for the protection of the East Indian Railway, the Port of Calcutta and, latterly, of the Bengal-Nagpur Railway. Surely it is but reason and justice that the East Indian Railway Company, the Calcutta Port Trust and the Bengal-Nagpur Railway Company, all rich and prosperous corporations, should be made to materially contribute towards the cost of relieving us from our distress. These contributions will be nothing more than long-due arrears of *premia* for their insurance against damages by the action of the river Damodar. Every commercial house pays for insurance of its property and there is no reason why the East Indian Railway, the Bengal-Nagpur Railway and the Port Trust should not pay for ensuring theirs.

I have already stated that since 1809 the Government has been receiving Rs. 60,001 sicca every year from the Maharaja of Burdwan and the proprietors of parganas Mandalghat and Chetua for the avowed object of protecting the country on both sides of the Damodar from floods by keeping the embankments on both sides in repairs. Of this sum of Rs. 60,001 sicca, Rs. 25,000 sicca at least may fairly be claimed for the embankment on the west side which was removed in 1855. The people living on the west side of the river may justly claim that the Government is their trustee for the sum of Rs. 25,000 sicca which they have received from their zamindar every year for the last 60 or 55 years. This sum without interest comes up to Rs. 13,75,000 sicca or nearly 15 lakhs in Company's rupees, and with compound interest at 4 per cent. with half-yearly interest comes up to over 48 lakhs in sicca and over 51 lakhs in Company's rupees, and we can in justice, equity and good conscience demand that this large sum should be spent in devising and carrying out measures to prevent the disastrous floods. Perhaps I shall be told that the Government are spending the whole of Rs. 57,320-8-6 which it annually receives from the Burdwan Estate or more in keeping the eastern embankment alone in repairs: but that does not take away a jot from the justice and strength of the claim of the people living on the west side that about half of the sum should have been spent and now the accumulations for the last 60 years should be spent for their benefit. A bargain is a bargain, whether it is profitable or not, and Government cannot say that because it is not profitable they will fulfil only half of it and not the whole. This large sum and the contributions which we may fairly and justly claim from the East Indian Railway and the Bengal-Nagpur Railway Companies and the Calcutta Port Trust will more than suffice to meet the cost of any works for the betterment of our miserable condition.

Even if there were no funds over which we had any special claim, the Government are bound to protect the lives and property of the people from floods out of the general revenues. It is a duty more urgent and important than the duty of protecting the people from thieves and dacoits, for they only rob the comparatively rich at irregular times, while the cruel Damodar knows no such distinction and goes on in its work of ruin and devastation with almost clock-work regularity. If the engineers are not hampered by considerations of expense, an efficient scheme will be readily forthcoming; and there is already the scheme of Messrs. Horn and Maconchy of a huge reservoir in the

[*Maulvi Mazharul Anwar Chaudhuri; Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan.*]

catchment area ready to hand. Half of the sum of Rs. 57,320-8-6, maintenance charge, which the Government will continue to receive from the Burdwan Raj Estate, together with annual contributions, *i.e.*, *premia*, for their insurance, from the Railway Companies and the Port Trust, will, I venture to think, more than meet the yearly maintenance charge of any works that may be undertaken.

Your Lordship and the Hon'ble Members will see from what I have stated that we have suffered in health and substance too long and we ought not to suffer any longer.

My Lord, if anything is to be done it ought to be done as quickly as possible; else what with floods, malaria, and the other diseases consequent on the floods, very few will be left to benefit by a perfect scheme which may be devised in the distant future. Let it not be said in the words of Saadi :—' By the time the antidote comes from Irak, the person bitten by the snake will have died.'

My Lord, if measures be adopted during Your Excellency's administration to improve our miserable lot, your memory will for ever live enshrined in the grateful breasts of hundreds of thousands of contented and happy people and their prayers will go up to the foot of the throne of our Almighty and Merciful Father for your long life, health and happiness.

With these words, my Lord, I commend the Resolution to the acceptance of the Council and I hope the Government will accept it as they have been anxious for the past few years to alleviate our distress."

The Hon'ble MAHARAJADHIRAJA BAHADUR OF BURDWAN said :—

"My Lord, the subject-matter of the Resolution is one in which the Burdwan Raj is naturally deeply interested, and what the Hon'ble Maulvi Mazharul Anwar Chaudhuri has said regarding the distress of the people on the west side of the river Damodar is perfectly true. While on this subject I cannot help thinking that my ancestors were very wise in handing over the maintenance of the embankment to Government, for I would not like to have been in their position myself to-day. While stating that, I must, however, put forward a strong appeal on behalf of the inhabitants of the west bank of the river Damodar, a large number of whom happen to be tenants of the Burdwan Raj, for their condition is certainly not an enviable one. I am not an expert; therefore, I am not in a position to put before Your Excellency and Your Excellency's Government either the scheme of Mr. Horn or Mr. Maconchy. What, however, I do advocate and advocate strongly is that, if the protection of the inhabitants on the west bank of the Damodar has to be secured, it should be done without delay, and the Government must prepare themselves to lay out a very large sum which alone can alleviate the present distress. The answer, of course, that we may expect—and not an entirely unjustifiable one on the part of the Government—is that the cost of such a scheme would seem to be at present prohibitive. But if the cost be prohibitive, is it right on the part of Government to go on holding out promises that schemes are under consideration? Would it not be better to speak out once for all and say that the scheme is an impossible one?

Another thing, my Lord, that I should like to point out in this connection is that a good deal has been said by the Hon'ble Maulvi M. Anwar Chaudhuri regarding the condition of the people after the floods of the river Damodar in August last. Of course, it was an exceptional occurrence, and we all hope that we may not live to see another disaster like that. But the point is, as I said or rather hinted at in my speech delivered at the Town Hall when we met to raise money for relieving the distressed—at which meeting your Lordship presided,—that the people had begun to lose confidence in Government in the way the existing embankments were being maintained. And only very recently I have had good authority on which I can say that the repairs that have been done to the eastern embankment after the floods

[*Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan; Mr. Finnimore.*]

have not been done properly. This is a matter to which I beg to draw Your Excellency's attention.

Another point is this—whether the Railway Company should be made to pay for the benefit that they have derived all these years. I do not wish to bring it forward here, but if there are to be more railways, whether grand chords or small chords, the Government should see that adequate viaducts and adequate waterways are kept when the railway line is put up, for it was very clearly shown during the recent floods that the Burdwan town would have been in a worse plight had not the railway viaducts and the railway openings given way. The Railway authorities have been, as is well known, on the quiet, closing up a great many openings for reasons best known to themselves.

All that I wish to point out is this. Whether it be a settled policy on the part of the Government to abandon the western embankment of the Damodar or not is a matter of which the Government is the best person to judge, but whatever embankments we have to protect, or whatever protective measures have to be commenced, they should be done well and early; and it should be seen that the embankments now in existence are kept in proper order, and that steps for the alleviation of the distressed on the western side of the Damodar be taken up at an early date.

With these few words, my Lord, I beg to support the general principles underlying the Resolution of my hon'ble friend."

The Hon'ble Mr. FINNIMORE said :—

"I have listened with very great interest to the speeches of the Hon'ble Mover of this Resolution and of the Hon'ble Maharaja of Burdwan. The question raised by the Resolution is one of considerable importance, and has the sympathy of Government. The abandonment of the embankments on the western side of the river was not done without very careful consideration at the time it was done. Considerable discussion took place at that time, and it was only after the matter had been very carefully investigated by the engineers at the time that this proposal was adopted. It is hardly necessary for me to go further into the ancient history of the case, and I pass on to the investigation made by Mr. Horn in 1902, when he went very carefully into the question and submitted a very able report in which the situation was very carefully summed up. This investigation showed that the only effective remedy was to hold up the floods of the Damodar by the construction of a huge reservoir, the cost of which was estimated by him at 1¼ crore of rupees, not Rs. 32,00,000, as stated by the Hon'ble Mover of this Resolution. It was then decided that the benefits which would accrue from the expenditure of that large sum of money would not be compensated for by the advantages provided. Mr. Horn's conclusions were summed up at the end of his report, and he came to the conclusion that the only practical proposition, after considering the question of reservoirs, was the training of the Begua river. In Mr. Horn's report various suggestions were made as to the best way of training this river, and an estimate was subsequently prepared for a dam at the Begua Breach which was sanctioned by Government for a cost of Rs. 4,20,000. As may be imagined, the effect of this dam had to be very carefully considered and, before this large expenditure was incurred, we had an investigation made by Mr. Nethersole, the Inspector-General of Irrigation in India, who was here last year. He made an investigation as to the probable effect of this dam, but he expressed an opinion which was very much against it; in fact, he condemned it entirely. I will read what he said about it :—

'After discussing the question with the officers concerned, I am of opinion that success is doubtful and the expense not justified. The Damodar is at a much higher level than the flooded tract and nothing short of continuous bunding of the right bank, which was deliberately abandoned years ago, would be effective in keeping out the floods. Flooding of the tract would probably be as heavy by spills farther down as they are *viâ* the Begua,

[*Mr. Finnimore.*]

while the effect of such heavy scouring of the contracted Damodar channel might very probably enhance the "James and Mary" shoal in the Hooghly.

In the circumstances I do not recommend the proposals for sanction, but would suggest that the setting-back the congested bunds on the Baxi khal and constructing a low-level drain with tidal sluices to discharge into the Damodar in its tidal reach will probably afford the necessary relief to the stagnant floods much earlier and more economically. These modified proposals are, I think, worth investigation'

After that recommendation of Mr. Nethersole was received, investigations have been going on. Mr. Addams-Williams, one of our most expert engineers, is now engaged in these investigations, and we are now awaiting his report. The opportunity was taken of Mr. Nethersole's presence here this year for him to again inspect the locality after last year's flood, and I will read what he says as a result of that inspection :—

'I had the advantage of inspecting a part of the Damodar river and the tract of the country flooded by it during my investigation last year and I then formed an opinion on the general question of the best policy to pursue regarding flood banks of this river. Nothing in the last flood of 1913, which appears to have been a record one, alters the opinion I then formed. Indeed, on the contrary it confirms it. The case, moreover, has been very carefully investigated by several other engineers in the past, and I may say that the whole weight of the opinion of officers who have examined or considered this case is solid. I, therefore, only need record here briefly the general policy based on that opinion which has in the past been laid down and which should be adhered to :—

(1) The maintenance of the left bank is obligatory and it should be maintained in a thoroughly efficient state and raised and strengthened where recent experience has shown that it was too low or too weak.

(2) The right bank should not be protected and it would be advisable in my opinion to open out all spills which were closed when the right bank protection was formerly attempted.

(3) It is, I consider, inadvisable to create spills on the left bank. Works necessary for this would be expensive, and I doubt whether it could be shown to be in any sense efficient in proportion to the certain great cost.

(4) It is desirable to give all relief possible to the exit of flood-water at the lower end of the spill area. The construction in the Baxi embankments, to which I drew attention in my last year's note, was very pointedly proved by observed differences of levels above and below this point during the last floods, and there can be no doubt about the importance of opening out this outfall to clear floods more quickly than at present, as well as, to some extent, to moderate the flood-levels.'

Since then Mr. Addams-Williams has been going on with his investigations, and we are now awaiting the results of those investigations. I think it will be rather premature now to come to any definite decision as to what should be done, that is to say, to commit ourselves to any definite line of policy, either to make a big reservoir in the hills or to carry out this opening-out of the bunds lower down. This must depend, I think, entirely on the result of Mr. Addams-Williams's report. It may be quite possible that the expense in connection with the opening-out of the bunds may be very much less than that of a reservoir in the hills, and if that were the case it might be the better plan ; I think it will be premature now to commit ourselves to the Resolution, that is to say, that an effectual remedy should be found at once. It is an extremely large question and has engaged our attention for many years. It has the full sympathy of Government, and we are doing all we can to meet the difficulty. After all, it must be remembered that what has happened is a natural process. You have the rivers coming down from the

[*Maulvi Mazharul Anwar Chaudhuri; Nawab Saiyid Nawab Ali Chaudhuri, Khan Bahadur.*]

hills laden with silt. The natural effect will be for them to spread out and raise the ground on either side. If you make continuous embankments, you have the river confined within those embankments and the bed of the river gradually rising above the countries outside, and when the time comes when a breach occurs in those embankments, the result will be very much greater damage than if you allowed the river to spread out on either side. We are committed to the present state of affairs, and we have to deal with it as best we can. I would therefore strongly advise that we should await the result of Mr. Addams-Williams's investigations, and Government are fully prepared to do what they can to meet the situation. They quite realise the difficulties which the inhabitants in that area are now put to and, having full sympathy with them, will do all they can to mitigate the evils; and I trust that with this assurance the Mover of the Resolution will withdraw it."

The Hon'ble MAULVI MAZHARUL ANWAR CHAUDHURI said :—

"My Lord, I never proposed that the Government should commit themselves to any particular scheme. My object in moving this Resolution was simply to request the Government to do as quickly as possible what they had been promising for a very long time; but, in view of what has fallen from the Hon'ble Mr. Finnimore, I accept the assurance of the Government that they are considering schemes for the alleviation of our distress; and in these circumstances I beg to withdraw my Resolution."

The Resolution was then, by leave of the President, withdrawn.

List of Business—Item No. 9.—The Hon'ble Nawab Saiyid Nawab Ali Chaudhuri said :

"My Lord, I beg that, with Your Excellency's permission, the Resolution which stands in my name may be postponed till a later date."

The discussion of the following Resolution was thereupon, by leave of the President, postponed.

THE HON'BLE NAWAB SAIYID NAWAB ALI CHAUDHURI, KHAN BAHADUR, to move the following Resolution :—

This Council recommends to the Governor in Council that an expert committee, consisting of officials and non-officials and presided over by the Director of Public Instruction, be appointed to formulate definite recommendations to Government for the furtherance and spread of Muhammadan education in this Presidency, such committee to be representative of Muhammadan interests throughout the Presidency and to be assisted by the Special Officer in charge of Muhammadan Education as secretary.

ADJOURNMENT.

The Council was then adjourned to Thursday, the 5th March, 1914, at 11 A.M.

A. W. WATSON,

Secretary to the Bengal Legislative Council.

CALCUTTA;

The 4th March, 1914.

B. S. Press—23-4-1914—4224J—500—E J H

Abstract of the Proceedings of the Bengal Legislative Council assembled under the provisions of the Indian Councils Acts, 1861, 1892 and 1909, and the Government of India Act, 1912.

THE Council met in the Council Chamber in Government House on Thursday, the 5th March, 1914.

Present :

His Excellency the Right Hon'ble THOMAS DAVID, BARON CARMICHAEL OF SKIRLING, G.C.I.E., K.C.M.G., Governor of the Presidency of Fort William in Bengal, *presiding*.

The Hon'ble SIR FREDERICK WILLIAM DUKE, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., *Vice-President*.

The Hon'ble MR. P. C. LYON, C.S.I.

The Hon'ble NAWAB SYED SHAMS-UL-HUDA.

The Hon'ble MR. C. J. STEVENSON-MOORE, C.V.O.

The Hon'ble MR. F. J. MONAHAN.

The Hon'ble MR. J. G. CUMMING, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. B. K. FINNIMORE.

The Hon'ble MR. J. H. KERR, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. H. L. STEPHENSON, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. H. F. SAMMAN.

The Hon'ble MR. C. H. BOMPAS.

The Hon'ble MR. C. F. PAYNE.

The Hon'ble RAI PRIYA NATH MUKHARJI BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble MR. A. N. MOBERLY.

The Hon'ble COL. G. F. A. HARRIS, C.S.I.

The Hon'ble MR. H. J. HILARY.

The Hon'ble NAWAB SIR KHWAJA SALIMULLAH BAHADUR, G.C.I.E., K.C.S.I.

The Hon'ble MR. S. P. SINHA.

The Hon'ble DR. NILRATAN SARKAR.

The Hon'ble MR. R. GLEN.

The Hon'ble MR. BYOMKES CHAKRAVARTI.

The Hon'ble SIR BIJAY CHAND MAHTAB, K.C.S.I., K.C.I.E., I.O.M., Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan.

The Hon'ble RAJA SHOSHI KANTA ACHARYYA CHAUDHURI BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble DR. DEBA PRASAD SARBADHIKARI.

The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble MR. J. C. SHORROCK.

The Hon'ble MR. G. A. BAYLEY.

The Hon'ble MR. GOLAM HOSSEIN CASSIM ARIFF.

The Hon'ble MAULVI MAZHARUL ANWAR CHAUDHURI.

THE Hon'ble MAULVI MUSHARRAF HUSAIN.

The Hon'ble MAHARAJA RANAJIT SINHA OF NASHIPUR.

The Hon'ble RAI NALINAKSHA BASU BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble NAWAB SAIYID NAWAB ALI CHAUDHURI KHAN BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI.

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH RAY.

The Hon'ble RAI HARI MOHAN CHANDRA BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble BABU UPENDRA LAL RAY.

[*Babu Surendra Nath Banerji; Mr. Samman; Maulvi Mazharul Anwar Chaudhuri; Mr. Samman; Nawab Saiyid Hossam Haidar Chaudhuri, Khan Bahadur.*]

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 1.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS

by the Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI :—

The inspecting staff of the Education Department.

* 1. (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state the different classes of officers, and their number in each class, on the inspecting staff of the Education Department in Bengal in 1913-14?

(*b*) Will the Government be pleased to give the same information for the year 1912-13?

The Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN replied :—

(*a*) & (*b*) "A statement giving the required information is laid on the table."

Statement referred to in the Answer by the Hon'ble Mr. Samman to Question No. 1 (starred) asked by the Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Banerji at the Council meeting of the 5th March, 1914, showing the different classes of officers, and their number in each class, on the Inspecting staff of the Education Department in Bengal for the years 1912-13 and 1913-14.

Class of Officer.	1912-13.	1913-14.
Inspectors	5	5
Additional Inspectors (including 2nd Inspectors).	8	8
Assistant Inspectors	14	14
Deputy ditto	52	52
Additional Deputy Inspectors	22	22
Sub-Inspectors	248	248
Assistant Sub-Inspectors	37	37
Inspectresses	2	2
Assistant Inspectresses	5	10
Total ...	393	398

by the Hon'ble MAULVI MAZHARUL ANWAR CHAUDHURI :—

Election rules of the Howrah Municipality.

* 2. (*a*) Are the Government aware that it is proposed by the Howrah Municipality to alter their election rules by raising the standard of qualification of electors, and that the said proposal has created great alarm in the minds of the Muhammadan ratepayers of that Municipality?

(*b*) If any such proposals have been submitted, will the Government be pleased to state what action is being taken in the matter, and whether Muhammadan opinion has been consulted?

The Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN replied :—

"No proposals for altering the election rules of the Howrah Municipality have been submitted to Government."

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

by the Hon'ble NAWAB SAIYID HOSSAM HAIDAR CHAUDHURI, KHAN BAHADUR :—

Statistics relating to Muhammadan students in the college classes in Calcutta.

I.—Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing—

(*i*) the total number of Muhammadan students in the college classes in Calcutta,

(*ii*) the number residing in Government hostels and also in hostels attached to colleges,

(*iii*) the number residing in the licensed messes, and

(*iv*) the number living with their parents or with recognized guardians?

[*Mr. Samman; Mr. G. H. C. Arif; Mr. J. C. Shorrock; Mr. Stephenson.*]

The following answer by the Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN was laid on the table :—

"A statement giving the required information is laid on the table."

nent referred to in the Answer by the Hon'ble Mr. Samman to Question No. I (unstarred) sked by the Hon'ble Nawab Saiyid Hossam Haidar Chaudhuri, Khan Bahadur, at the uncil meeting of the 5th March, 1914, showing the number of Muhammadan students in llege classes in Calcutta and in hostels and messes.

NAME OF COLLEGE.	Total number of students in the College classes.	Number of students residing in government hostels.	Number of students residing in hostels attached to the College	Number of students residing in licensed messes	Number of students living with their parents.	Number of students living with recognized guardians other than parents.
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Presidency College	124	48	.	14	16	46 *
Central College	3	.....	.. ...	.....	... .	3
Scottish Churches College	1	.	. ..	.. .	. ..	1
Ripon College	50	6	. ...	7	24	52
Bangabasi College . ..	27	.	. ...	7	1	19
City College	127	27	23	...	25	50
C.M.S. College	4	. .	1	...	1	2
St. Xavier's College	117	28	...	.. ..	40	50
L.M.S. College	18	.....	.. ...	.	18	.....
Total .	510	109	24	28	124	223

* This includes 9 students who reside in private families as tutors.

by the Hon'ble MR. G. H. C. ARIFF :—

II.—(*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether the residential quarters for the head master of the Barrackpore Government School have been completed, and, if so, whether the head master is in occupation of them?

Residential quarters for the head master of the Barrackpore Government School

(*b*) What is the total cost of these quarters?

(*c*) Does the head master pay rent for the same, and, if so, what is the proportion of such rent to his monthly salary?

The following answer by the Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN was laid on the table :—

(*a*) "The quarters are not yet ready for occupation.

(*b*) Rupees 5,413.

(*c*) No rent will be realised from the head master for the occupation of these quarters."

by the Hon'ble MR. J. C. SHORROCK :—

III.—Will the Government be pleased to state what steps (if any) have been taken to remedy the general inadequacy of the Calcutta Eye Hospital to which the attention of Government was called by a letter from the European Association, dated the 3rd November, 1913?

Calcutta Eye Hospital.

The following answer by the Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON was laid on the table :—

"A new and up-to-date Eye Hospital attached to the Medical College is admittedly desirable, and proposals for building such a hospital are now before Government. But, in view of the heavy expenditure involved, the project must wait till funds can be provided. The specific remedial measures suggested in the letter referred to by the Hon'ble Member were that bath-rooms should be erected for European patients and the nursing staff, that the wards should be partitioned by means of movable wooden screens and that a specially-qualified nurse should be appointed for the

Operating Theatre. Government are advised that bath-rooms for the nursing staff are not necessary, as this staff lives in the Nurses' quarters and that it is not desirable to partition the wards as ventilation would thereby be impeded. As regards bath-rooms for European patients, the Hospital authorities report that the Hospital was never designed for European patients and that it cannot now be satisfactorily adapted to suit their requirements. The necessary structural alterations would be expensive and unsatisfactory, and they do not, therefore, recommend that anything should be done in this respect in the present Hospital. The question of a nurse for the Operating Theatre is under consideration."

LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS.

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 2.

THE BENGAL MEDICAL BILL, 1914.

THE Hon'ble Mr. Stephenson presented the Report of the Select Committee on the Bengal Medical Bill, 1914.

He said :—

My Lord, I beg to present the Report of the Select Committee on the Bengal Medical Bill. I do not propose to discuss in detail the alterations we have made which are fully explained in our Report, but perhaps I may be allowed to refer shortly to the alteration made in clause 27 inasmuch as there is still a very great deal of misapprehension as to the certificates mentioned in that clause. We have made it perhaps a little clearer that the certificates concerned are only those which are required to be given by an Act of the Legislature and further only those which are so required to be given by a medical practitioner. The ordinary medical certificates which are required for the purposes of obtaining leave or exemption from attendance in a Court of Justice or certificates of birth or death are not affected by this clause. I have had a fairly systematic search made through our Acts and, though I am not prepared to say that the list is absolutely exhaustive, the following are, as far as I have been able to ascertain, the only certificates which an unregistered practitioner will not be able to grant. I leave aside those certificates which are required to be given by a medical officer appointed by Government because they are not directly affected by this clause inasmuch as it may be taken that Government will not appoint in such case an unregistered practitioner. Under the Lepers Act of 1898, an unregistered practitioner cannot be an Inspector and therefore will not be able to certify that a patient is suffering from leprosy. Under the Assam Labour Act of 1901, he will not be able to give a valid certificate of fitness for labour in the case of intended emigrants. Under the Indian Factories Act and the Indian Mines Act, a certificate that a worker is over 12 years will not be accepted from an unregistered practitioner. Under the Lunacy Act of 1912, he will not be able to certify that the patient is a lunatic. Under the Bengal Vaccination Act, he will not be able to certify that a child is unfit for vaccination or is immune; nor can he give a certificate of successful vaccination. Under the Inoculation Act, he cannot certify that a person who has been inoculated is free from infection. These are, as far as my researches go, the only certificates which this Bill will debar an unregistered practitioner from giving, and I think the Council will agree that the apprehension that this clause will impose unjustifiable hardship and expense on the poorer classes of the community is not well founded, and I trust that this explanation will remove the misconception which is at the back of a great deal of the opposition which still remains to the Bill.

THE AMENDED DRAFT FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 3.

THE Hon'ble Sir William Duke presented the amended draft Financial Statement for Bengal for 1914-15.

AMENDED DRAFT FINANCIAL STATEMENT, BENGAL, 1914-15.

PART I.—General Review.

(1) ACCOUNTS FOR 1912-13.

In the revised estimate for 1912-13 which was laid before the Council on the 26th March 1913, the receipts of the year were taken at Rs. 7,12,53,000 and the charges at Rs. 5,95,55,000, while the anticipated closing balance was Rs. 2,83,23,000. The accounts of 1912-13 as finally closed show that the actual receipts amounted to Rs. 7,16,53,401 and the charges to Rs. 5,69,48,131, and the closing balance was Rs. 3,13,30,270. The receipts were thus better by Rs. 4,00,401, this improvement having occurred chiefly under Land Revenue Adjustments (Rs. 1,32,885) for the cost of forms for the Assam Administration; Excise (Rs. 2,59,045) owing to better settlement of shops and consequent larger advance collections in March 1913, and Miscellaneous (Rs. 1,36,339) on account of larger lapse of deposits. The actual charges were less by Rs. 26,06,869, chiefly under the following heads: Land Revenue (Rs. 1,26,872) owing to smaller expenditure on the improvement of Government Estates; Courts of Law (Rs. 1,65,600) as the expenditure under Civil and Sessions Courts and Mufussal law charges was smaller than anticipated; Police (Rs. 1,55,141) as the grant for police reforms and river police was not fully utilized; Ports and Pilotage (Rs. 1,15,991) due to larger recoveries by the Agent for Government Consignments, which are taken in reduction of expenditure; Education (Rs. 2,92,171) on account of short expenditure from Imperial grants; Miscellaneous (Rs. 1,31,390) owing to the transfer of the lump provision from this head to meet the charges for grain compensation allowance to the respective Departments; Civil Works in charge of the Public Works Department (Rs. 7,78,245) chiefly on account of lapses of grants for land acquisition for the extension of the Presidency College and School of Tropical Medicine, Calcutta, and lastly under Civil Works in charge of Civil officers (Rs. 7,13,616) owing to non-utilization of the full amount provided for expenditure on sanitation.

(2) REVISED ESTIMATE, 1913-14.

2. The revised estimate for 1913-14, as now passed, on the basis of the actuals of the first nine, and in some cases ten, months of the current year, is compared below with the sanctioned estimate for the year:—

		Sanctioned estimate.	Revised estimate.	Better (+) or worse (—).
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Opening balance	..	2,83,23,000	3,13,30,000	+30,07,000
Revenue receipts	...	5,36,13,000	5,59,31,000	+23,18,000
Adjustments	...	+56,43,000	+57,39,000	+96,000
Total receipts	...	5,92,56,000	6,16,70,000	+24,14,000
Grand Total	...	8,75,79,000	9,30,00,000	+54,21,000
Total expenditure	...	6,82,09,000	6,25,70,000	+56,39,000
Closing balance	...	1,93,70,000	3,04,30,000	+1,10,60,000

3. The increase under adjustments is due to the additional assignments from Imperial to Provincial Revenues as well as to other changes shown below :—

	Rs.	Rs.
Add—		
Recurring Imperial grant to the Church Missionary Society College, Calcutta	6,000	
Recurring Imperial grant for the improvement of female education...	30,000	
Additional contribution to meet the charges of Lieutenant-Colonel Sutherland's deputation to serological work	5,000	
Contribution ditto of Captain Shingleton Smith's deputation ...	7,000	
Contribution for the cost of forms to Assam Administration ...	89,000	
Contribution for grant to the Chittagong Port	75,000	
		2,12,000
Deduct—		
Special assignment from Provincial to Imperial for repairs to Nizamat Palace, Murshidabad ...	49,000	
Annual assignment from Provincial to Bihar and Orissa for law charges...	15,000	
Annual assignment to Bihar and Orissa for Collegiate and University education	21,000	
Special assignment for making certain alterations to the buildings of the Calcutta Museum for delivery of lectures	2,000	
Omission of the contribution from Bihar and Orissa for fishery experiments	15,000	
Reduction of the assignment from Bihar and Orissa for cost of forms (from Rs. 2,32,000 to Rs. 2,09,000) ...	23,000	
		1,16,000
		96,000

4. The principal fluctuations under the Revenue heads are noticed briefly below. The improvements aggregate Rs. 27,27,000, and are chiefly under the following heads :—

Stamps—(Rs. 1,00,000), due to larger sale of stamps chiefly in Calcutta and principally on account of high prices ruling in the jute trade.

Excise—(Rs. 13,45,000), due to increase in license fees obtained in the settlement of shops and to higher rates of duty on *ganja* and country spirit which came into effect from April 1913.

Assessed Taxes—(Rs. 4,50,000), owing to a general increase in trade profits.

Forests—(Rs. 2,50,000), due to sale of timber previously extracted in Buxa, to the expansion of fuel trade in Kurseong and to better prices obtained for timber in Buxa and Chittagong.

Registration—(Rs. 70,000), due to the increase in the number of registrations.

Courts of Law—(Rs. 1,02,000), due to larger receipts from magisterial fines and from court-fees realized in cash.

Jails—(Rs. 67,000), due to larger sale of manufactured articles.

Scientific and other Minor Departments—(Rs. 87,000), due to larger sale of quinine.

Miscellaneous—(Rs. 87,000), due chiefly to anticipated lapse of deposits at the close of the year and partly to the sale of land to the Railway at Chittagong and to the realization of larger audit fees on the completion of arrear audits.

Under the following heads, on the other hand, the revenue fell off, the total decrease being Rs. 4,09,000.

Land Revenue—(Rs. 1,49,000), on account of suspensions in the districts of Midnapore and Hooghly owing to floods.

Ports and Pilotage—(Rs. 1,60,000), chiefly under Pilotage receipts owing to decrease in the number of vessels.

Irrigation—Minor Works and Navigation—(Rs. 59,000), due to a falling off in the receipts of the Madaripore Bhil Route, on account of concessions granted to passenger steamers and in the Calcutta and Eastern canals on account of storms and a smaller traffic in rice and jute.

5. On the expenditure side the revised estimate shows a total decrease of Rs. 71,46,000, which is mainly accounted for under the following heads :—

Land Revenue—(Rs. 84,000), due to larger savings in the grant under salaries, and larger recoveries for partition work.

Excise—(Rs. 40,000), due to the lapse of the provision for reorganization of the department.

Police—(Rs. 1,74,000), due to the lump provisions for Police reforms and river police reorganization being only partially utilized.

Education—(Rs. 49,78,000), due to savings in the Imperial grants.

Medical—(Rs. 12,01,000), due to savings in the Imperial grants for Sanitation, and Medical relief and to the provision for the School of Tropical Med cine being only partially spent.

Scientific and other Minor Departments—(Rs. 1,81,000), due to savings in the grants of the Agricultural Department and Botanic gardens and also in the Imperial grant for Agriculture and allied objects.

Miscellaneous—(Rs. 2,37,000), due to the adjustment to the appropriate heads of the grants made by His Excellency, and to the transfer of charges for grain allowance to the different departments by reappropriation from the lump provision made under this head.

Civil works in charge of the Civil Department—(Rs. 1,90,000), due to the transfer of the grant to the Chittagong Port to the head Ports and Pilotage and also to savings in the grant for works of sanitary improvement.

On the other hand there will be a total increase in expenditure of Rs. 15,07,000 of which the most noticeable instances are :—

General Administration—(Rs. 1,52,000), due to larger expenditure on His Excellency's tour, initial expenditure on books and furniture for Council Library and to larger expenditure in the Civil Secretariat and Executive Council.

Courts of Law—(Rs. 3,43,000), due to larger expenditure for counsel's fees in connection with the Barisal conspiracy case and to larger expenditure under both Civil and Criminal Courts.

Jails—(Rs. 1,97,000), due to larger expenditure under rations and for purchase of raw materials.

Ports and Pilotage—(Rs. 62,000), owing to the adjustment of the grant to the Chittagong Port under this head.

Superannuation—(Rs. 87,000), due to the special charges for commuted value of pensions.

Irrigation—Major Works—(Rs. 33,000), due to cost of silt clearance in Range II and Gewankhally supply channel of the Hijili Tidal Canal.

Irrigation—Minor Works and Navigation—(Rs. 64,000), due to expenditure for flood damage repairs.

Civil Works in charge of the Public Works Department—(Rs. 3,70,000), due to additional grant for land acquisition charges for the school of Tropical medicine and extension of the Presidency College.

6. The net result of these changes is that the closing balance for 1913-14, including the sum of 20 lakhs held in trust for the Calcutta Improvement Scheme, which was estimated in March last at Rs. 1,93,70,000 is now estimated to amount to Rs. 3,04,30,000.

(3) BUDGET ESTIMATE, 1914-15.

7. The opening balance of 1914-15 is the closing balance of 1913-14 and is, therefore, Rs. 3,04,30,000.

8. The estimates for the year, as provisionally approved by the Government of India, adopt Rs. 6,26,95,000 as receipts and Rs. 7,35,93,000 as expenditure and a closing balance of Rs. 1,95,32,000. Out of the special grant of 50 lakhs for the Calcutta Improvement Scheme, which has appeared in the accounts since 1903-04, thirty lakhs have already been paid to the Improvement Trust and ten lakhs will be paid in 1914-15. Of the estimated closing balance the following are earmarked :—

	Rs.
Minimum balance	20,00,000
Calcutta Improvement Trust	10,00,000
Balance of discretionary grant	5,00,000
Provision promised for dredger in 1914-15 ...	5,00,000
Reorganization of Subordinate Police and River Police in Eastern Bengal (non-recurring)	10,50,000
Secondary Education (Not utilized) ...	93,000
Popular Education (Ditto)	27,000
Dacca University (non-recurring)	7,00,000
Ditto Savings of recurring grants of 1912-13 and 1913-14	90,000
Hostels outside Calcutta	55,000
Ditto in Calcutta	60,000
Non-recurring grant of 1912-13 out of 75 lakhs ...	27,05,000
Old non-recurring grant	2,81,000
Probable savings in the budget provision for Imperial grants of the Education Department for the year 1914-15	5,00,000
Non-recurring grant of 1912-13 for Sanitation out of 20 lakhs	13,25,000
Old non-recurring grant	1,50,000
Probable savings in the budget provision for Sanitary grant for the year 1914-15 ...	10,00,000
Bengal Government contribution for the construction of Ranchi Lunatic Asylum ...	25,00,000
Amount earmarked for provincial equipment of the three years 1915-16 to 1917-18 ...	24,00,000
Total ...	1,69,36,000

This leaves a free balance of (Rs. 1,95,32,000—1,69,36,000=) Rs. 25,96,000 which is available for new expenditure in the near future and is not too large a sum to keep in reserve.

9. The total estimated charges for 1914-15 amount to Rs. 7,35,93,000 which is in excess of the income by Rs. 1,08,98,000, owing mainly to the following provisions :—

	Rs.	Rs.
Education—		
Lump provision for non-recurring expenditure out of the Imperial grant made in 1910-11	5,11,000	
Non-recurring grant for the construction of hostels outside Calcutta and Dacca	2,17,000	
Non-recurring grant for the construction of hostels in Calcutta ...	8,70,000	
Non-recurring grant for the construction of hostels for Dacca University	3,00,000	
Lump provision for non-recurring expenditure out of the Imperial grant of 75 lakhs made in 1912-13...	30,00,000	

	Rs.	Rs.
***Education*—concluded.**		
Non-recurring grant, being savings in the recurring grant for popular education for 1912-13 and 1913-14 ...	2,47,000	
Non-recurring grant, being savings in the recurring grant of Rs. 13,20,000 for 1913-14	12,00,000	
	63,45,000	
Deduct probable savings in the above grants	5,00,000	58,45,000
***Medical*—**		
Lump provision for non-recurring expenditure on Sanitation out of the Imperial grant made in 1910-11 and 7¼ lakhs made in 1911-12 ...	6,83,000	
Non-recurring grant, being savings in the recurring grant of 5 lakhs for 1913-14	1,50,000	
Non-recurring grant, being savings in the non-recurring grant of Rs. 6,75,000 provided for in the budget for 1913-14 out of the Imperial assignment of 20 lakhs ...	5,50,000	
Non-recurring grant, being savings in the recurring grant of 9 lakhs for 1912-13 and 1913-14	2,00,000	
	18,83,000	
Deduct probable savings in the above grants	10,00,000	8,83,000
Balance of the lump grant for Medical Relief	...	80,000
Balance of the Imperial grant for tropical medicine		1,00,000
Equipment for the School of Tropical Medicine	...	50,000
Balance of the Imperial grant of 2 lakhs made in 1911-12 and 1913-14 for Agriculture and allied objects	52,000	
Balance of the Imperial grant made in 1913-14 for Cinchona Department	30,000	
Provincial allotment for non-recurring expenditure of the Agricultural Department	1,00,000	1,82,000
Portion of Imperial assignment for discretionary grant	...	6,40,000
Grant to the Calcutta Improvement Trust	...	10,00,000
Larger grant for Civil Works in charge of the Public Works Department ...	...	23,19,000
Additional grant for the management of Government Estates ...	..	50,000
Purchase of a steam launch for the Collector of Faridpur		40,000

10. A schedule is attached showing the new schemes, costing individually more than Rs. 5,000 which have been included in the budget. The non-recurring charges on account of these schemes amount to Rs. 15,21,540 and the recurring charges to Rs. 15,88,001. The Budget includes, in

addition, the following new schemes, of a more or less petty nature, which are individually estimated to cost Rs. 5,000 or less :—

(*a*) NON-RECURRING CHARGES.

	Rs.	Rs.
Excise—		
Purchase of Hydrometers ...	2,000	2,000
Forests—		
Construction of an Inspection Bungalow with out-houses near Raman in Singallai Range, Darjeeling ...	2,000	
Construction of a rest-house with out-houses, at Gadadhar, Buxa Division	4,200	
Construction of an Inspection Bungalow near Satkania, Chittagong Division	2,000	
Construction of new range office for Chakaria Sundarbans Range ...	1,600	
Construction of quarters for Range officer, etc., in Chittagong Division	1,900	
Construction of a new rest-house in the Chittagong Hill Tracts Division	2,500	
Forest Settlement and compensation for lands and right, Jalpaiguri ...	4,000	18,200
Registration—		
Additional grant for record racks ...	2,000	
Purchase of typewriters	3,000	5,000
General Administration—		
Purchase of books for the Library of the Legislative Council ...	...	5,000
Law and Justice—Courts of Law—		
Preserving memorial portraits in the High Court	...	2,000
Police—		
Calcutta Police Training School ...	4,878	
Additional Police for Government Dockyard	508	
Steam Cutter for Calcutta River Police (Government Share)	3,333	
Purchase of bicycles for training school	3,060	
Construction of house boat for Superintendent of Police, Noakhali ...	3,500	
Purchase of watchman's recorders ...	1,430	
Purchase of ponies for district Police	600	
Purchase of Surveying instruments	4,000	
Do. 3 panshi boats ...	1,890	23,199

	Rs.	Rs.
Education—		
Purchase of typewriters for the Assistant Director of Public Instruction	1,000	
Special charges for compiling a new catalogue of Sanskrit manuscripts	350	
Special charges for the purchase of apparatus for secondary schools ...	2,000	
Purchase of furniture for the new school building, Middle Vernacular School, Faridpur ...	600	
		3,950
Medical—		
Replacement of old instruments ...	1,000	
Purchase of typewriters ...	2,000	
		3,000
Scientific and other Minor Departments—		
Grant to the Birch Hill Park for repairs of roads	1,000	
Emigration bungalow at Goalundo	3,000	
Dacca Poultry Farm	700	
Nursery at Bogra for Deshi seed ...	5,000	
Extension of Kalitha nursery into a central nursery	5,000	
		14,700
Stationery and Printing—		
Cost of removing forms from Dullanda to the Jail Press ...	...	2,000
Civil Works (Civil)—		
Repairs of cattle boats in Midnapore	300	
Do. the masonry approaches of the Sambhuganj-Jamalpur ferry ghâts	2,175	
		2,475
(*b*) RECURRING CHARGES.		
Excise—		
Local allowance of Bureau officer		900
Registration—		
Revision of cadre of Sub-Registrars	4,500	
Increase of allowances to the probationers	1,800	
Cost of remitting salaries, etc., in the Western Bengal districts ...	3,000	
		9,300
General Administration—		
Grant of local allowance of Rs. 100 to one assistant of the Legislative Department who is to do the Council work	1,200	
Librarian for the Library of the Legislative Council	600	
Increase of allowances to the four probationers of the Presidency Commissioner's office and appointment of three probationers for the Dacca Commissioner's office ...	1,020	
		2,820

	Rs.	Rs.
Law and Justice—Courts of Law—		
Establishment for the Inspector of Judicial offices	936	
Three Assistant Government Pleaders for Serajganj Madaripur and Brahmanberia	1,080	
Revision of the pay of the Bailiffs, Calcutta Small Cause Court	2,412	
		4,428
Law and Justice—Jails—		
Increased rate of water-supply charged for against the jails at Hooghly, Berhampore, Darjeeling and Mymensingh		2,900
Police—		
Feed and keep of Police dogs	600	
Entertainment of additional coolies and sweepers for the Police Hospital, Calcutta	768	
Entertainment of a sergeant for River Police, Calcutta	2,289	
Additional constables for the Sealdah Police Court	840	
Increase of the cadre of the Sealdah Railway Police	2,358	
Entertainment of a 3rd Circle Inspector and his staff for the Sadar Subdivision of Dacca ...	3,348	
Cost of the pilot engine to be employed during His Excellency's tour	4,000	
Substitution of a Sub-Inspector in the Police Training College, Sarda, for the 2nd Pandit ...	930	
Cost of force for patrolling the Railway line near Ondal and Raniganj	4,385	
Introduction of station boat system, Bakarganj ...	2,808	
Reconstitution of town beat system at Pirojpur ...	1,040	
Reconstitution of town police at Barisal ...	1,146	
		21,512
Ports and Pilotage—		
Lump provision for additional establishment for increased out-door work of the office of the Agent for Government Consignments ...		2,400
Education—		
Appointment of Sonthal Sub-Inspectors ...	1,200	
Personal allowance of two Inspectors of Schools ...	4,200	
Increase of pay of existing maulvis and appointment of additional maulvis	2,650	
Additional Professor of Mathematics, Presidency College	2,400	
Additional Laboratory Assistant, Civil Engineering College, Sibpur	900	
Enhanced boarding allowance of the Victoria Boys' School, Kurseong	4,950	
Additional masters and mistresses for Mymensingh and Chittagong Girls' Schools	4,068	
Appointment of a games mistress, Dow Hill Girls' School, Kurseong, and an additional teacher for the Faizunissa Girls' School, Comilla ...	1,300	
Appointment of additional pandits and maulvis owing to the conversion of certain *guru*-training schools to Mianji Training Schools ...	1,351	
Two additional pupil teachers for the Serampore Weaving School	1,200	
Increase in rewards and stipends to Sanskrit *tols*	2,400	
Travelling expenses of teachers to Kurseong for manual training	2,100	
Friendly gathering of teachers and parents, etc. ...	1,400	
		30,119

	Rs.	Rs.
Medical—		
Revision of Civil Surgeons' offices	2,000	
Increase of staff allowance, Military Assistant Surgeon, General Hospital	2,000	
Additional teacher for compounder class, Campbell School	840	
Additional Sub-Assistant Surgeons, Campbell Hospital	1,800	
Allowance to the Civil Surgeon, 24-Parganas, for the charge of the Voluntary Venereal Hospital, Bhowanipur	1,800	
Appointment of an Obstetric Registrar for the Eden Hospital, Medical College	1,200	
Establishment for the Surnomoyi Hostel, Medical College (full charge now paid instead of one-half)	1,770	
Personal allowance to the Deputy Superintendent, Berhampore Lunatic Asylum	1,200	
Increase of pay of the keeper establishment of the Berhampore Lunatic Asylum	1,800	
Extra servants for paying patients, Berhampore Lunatic Asylum	1,000	
	——	15,410
Scientific and other Minor Departments—		
Provision for three Veterinary Assistants .	1,080	
Additional Agricultural supervisors ..	4,800	
Provision for Overseer of Rangpur Dairy Farm .	1,440	
Additional Overseer, Botanical Garden, Sibpur ...	840	
Personal allowance of an overseer of the Cinchona Plantation	480	
Appointment of an additional Inspector of Factories	4,800	
Establishment for registration of Steamer-borne trade at Bhairab Bazar, Mymensingh ...	1,200	
Establishment for registration of traffic passing over inland wharves	1,680	
Allowance to the Civil Surgeon of Jalpaiguri in connection with the Jalpaiguri Labour Act, 1912	1,200	
Revision of establishment, Co-operative Credit Societies Department	3,240	
Provision for a head clerk in the office of the Deputy Director of Fisheries	720	
	——	21,480
Stationery and Printing—		
House allowance for the Assistant Manager of Forms	720	
House allowance of Engineer, new Central Jail Press	600	
	——	1,320
Miscellaneous—		
Contribution for new telegraph lines for the Police Department	...	4,800

PART II.—Detailed remarks on the Budget for 1914-15.

RECEIPTS

11. *Land Revenue.*—The total collections in 1912-13 amounted to Rs. 2,79,87,156, and the estimate for 1914-15, as provisionally passed by the Government of India, is Rs. 2,96,64,000, against Rs. 2,80,42,000, the revised estimate for 1913-14. The estimate includes Rs. 20,24,000 for recoveries of Survey and Settlement charges against Rs. 10,34,000 provided on the same account in the revised estimate for 1913-14.

12. The estimated Provincial share of Land Revenue is calculated as follows :—

	Estimate, 1913-14.	Revised estimate, 1913-14.	Estimate, 1914-15.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Gross Land Revenue ...	2,83,88,000	2,80,42,000	2,96,64,000
Deduct—Estimated collections from Government Estates (wholly Provincial) ...	44,32,000	43,90,000	47,00,000
Deduct—Recovery of cost of maintenance of boundary pillars (wholly Provincial)	...	2,000	2,000
Deduct—Recoveries of Survey and Settlement Charges (wholly Imperial) ...	11,22,000	10,34,000	20,24,000
Total Deduction ...	55,54,000	54,26,000	67,26,000
Net amount divisible between Imperial and Provincial revenues	2,28,34,000	2,26,16,000	2,29,38,000
Provincial share, one-half ...	1,14,17,000	1,13,08,000	1,14,69,000
Add—Collections from Government Estates (wholly Provincial)	44,32,000	43,90,000	47,00,000
Add—Recovery of cost of maintenance of boundary pillars (wholly Provincial)	...	2,000	2,000
Total Provincial ...	1,58,49,000	1,57,00,000	1,61,71,000
Add—Adjustments as in paragraph below ...	56,43,000	57,39,000	57,84,000
Total Provincial receipts	2,14,92,000	2,14,39,000	2,19,55,000

13. *Land Revenue Adjustments.*—The estimate includes the following assignments from Imperial Revenues :—

	Rs.	Rs
Contribution for Famine Relief Scheme	60,000	
Grant to the Calcutta Improvement Trust for 60 years	1,50,000	
Recurring assignment in connection with remission of appropriations from Public Works Cess ...	24,93,000	
Recurring grant for Sanitation ...	5,00,000	
Contribution to meet charges of Lieutenant-Colonel Sutherland's deputation for serological enquiry	25,000	
Grant of one-half of the salaries of Health Officers in municipalities ...	39,000	
Contribution to meet the cost of Deputy Sanitary Commissioners ...	19,000	
Recurring assignment for the Belgachia Veterinary College ...	30,000	
Contribution from Bihar and Orissa in connection with Fishery Department	11,000	
Recurring grant for Dacca University	45,000	
Recurring grant for popular education	9,25,000	
Recurring grant for aided English secondary schools	1,50,000	
Assignment for remission of certain recoveries from local bodies ...	26,000	

	Rs	Rs
Assignment in connection with further scientific research for Dr. J. C. Bose for 3 years ...	9,000	
Recurring grant to the Church Missionary Society College, Calcutta	6,000	
Recurring grant for the extension of education among poorer classes of the domiciled community ...	40,000	
Recurring grant for the improvement of female education	30,000	
Recurring grant for the development of the work of the Calcutta University	65,000	
Further recurring grant for education	13,20,000	
Further assignment for education ..	1,50,000	
Assignment for the cost of forms, etc., for the Bihar and Orissa Government	2,32,000	
Assignment for the cost of forms, etc., for the Assam Administration ...	1,29,000	
Assignment for grant to the Chittagong Port Fund	75,000	
Contribution for recovery of cost of transmission of records by revised procedure introduced by the Court Fees Act	6,000	
Contributions for pensions of title-holders	3,000	
Recurring grant for the amalgamation of the clerical establishment of the Art Section of the Indian Museum with the Calcutta School of Art ..	1,000	
Assignment for traffic registration office, Bhairab Bazar	1,000	
Contribution from Bihar and Orissa towards pay of electric staff ..	8,000	
		65,48,000

The estimate also includes the following assignments from Provincial to Imperial Revenues :—

	Rs	Rs
Recurring fixed adjusting entry under the terms of the Settlement	7,28,000	
Recurring grant to Bihar and Orissa Government for grants to Colleges	21,000	
Recurring grant to Bihar and Orissa for law charges formerly paid by this Government	15,000	
		7,64,000

The net assignment from Imperial Revenues is Rs. 65,48,000—7,64,000 = Rs. 57,84,000.

14. *Stamps.*—The Budget estimate of the total revenue from Stamps for 1913-14 was passed by the Government of India for Rs. 2,14,00,000. The actuals in 1912-13 amounted to Rs. 2,07,43,853, and those of the first nine months of 1913-14 exclusive of receipts under the Calcutta Improvement Act, exceeded the figures of the corresponding period of the preceding year by Rs. 7,17,000. In view of these figures, and allowing for the adjustment of receipts from the sale of unified stamps between the Postal and the Stamp Departments, the revised estimate for 1913-14 has been passed for Rs. 2,16,00,000. Allowing for a progressive increase of 7 lakhs the estimate for 1914-15 has been placed at Rs. 2,23,00,000. The Provincial share is one-half, and amounts to Rs. 1,08,00,000 for 1913-14, and Rs. 1,11,50,000 for 1914-15.

15. *Excise.*—The total collections under this head in 1912-13 amounted to Rs. 1,37,59,045 and the estimate for 1913-14 was passed by the Government of India for Rs. 1,38,55,000. The actuals of the first ten months of 1913-14 exceeded those of the corresponding period of last year by Rs. 13,84,000 and the revised estimate for 1913-14 has been passed for

Rs. 1,52,00,000. The increase is chiefly due to higher license fees obtained in the settlement of shops in February and March 1913 and also partly to the increase in the rate of duty on country spirits. There will be no settlement in Calcutta this year, and it is expected that the raising of duty will diminish the receipts from the consumption of liquor: as steps are being taken to check the consumption of opium and charas, it is thought inadvisable to provide for an increase of more than 3 lakhs in the estimate for next year. The budget estimate for 1914-15 has accordingly been placed at Rs. 1,55,00,000.

16. *Provincial Rates.*—The collections from Public Works Cess are now being surrendered to District Boards. Under General Rates for the management of Private Estates, the estimate of receipts for 1914-15 is Rs. 1,18,000 against Rs. 1,23,000 the revised estimate for 1913-14 and Rs. 1,06,144, the actuals of 1912-13.

17. *Assessed Taxes.*—The receipts from Income-tax for 1913-14 were estimated at Rs. 56,00,000 The actual collections in 1912-13 amounted to Rs 55,51,652, while those in the first ten months of 1913-14 exceeded the figures of the corresponding period of last year by Rs 9,25,000, and the revised estimate for 1913-14 has been placed at Rs. 65,00,000. The large increase in ten months was due to some of the Coal and Jute Companies and most of the Banks having shown large increases in their profits. In view of the unusual increase in 1913-14 it is not expected that the receipts in 1914-15 will be as high as in 1913-14 and the estimate has been placed at Rs. 61,00,000. The Provincial share is one-half and amounts to Rs. 30,50,000.

18. *Forests.*—The budget estimate for 1913-14 was Rs. 14,00,000 against Rs. 16,00,601, the actuals of 1912-13. The actual collections in the first ten months of 1913-14 show an increase of Rs. 1,27,000. The revised estimate for 1913-14 has been placed at Rs. 16,50,000. The increase over the budget is due to sale of timber previously extracted in Buxa where departmental extraction was given up and to expansion of the fuel trade in Kurseong and to the receipt of better sale prices than anticipated for timber in Buxa and Chittagong. The estimate for 1914-15 has been passed for Rs. 16,00,000.

19. *Registration.*—The receipts under this head for 1913-14 were estimated at Rs. 19,00,000. The actuals in 1912-13 amounted to Rs. 18,23,161, while the collections in the first nine months of 1913-14 show an increase of Rs. 1,24,000 as compared with those of the corresponding period of the preceding year. In view of these figures the revised estimate for 1913-14 has been placed at Rs. 19,70,000 and allowing for a normal increase of Rs. 80,000 the estimate for 1914-15 has been passed for Rs. 20,50,000.

20. *Interest.*—The estimate of loans, as submitted to the Government of India, provides for a return in the way of interest during 1914-15 of Rs. 4,87,000 as shown below :—

	Rs.
Interest on advances to cultivators, etc.	62,000
" " " Co-operative Credit Societies	3,000
" " drainage and embankment advances ...	14,000
" " loans to landholders	1,74,000
" " " to municipalities and district Boards, etc.	2,20,000
Miscellaneous	14,000
Total ...	4,87,000

21. *Law and Justice—Courts of Law.*—The total collections under this head amounted to Rs. 8,14,901 and the estimate for 1913-14 was passed by the Government of India for Rs. 7,65,000. The actuals of the first nine months of 1913-14 show an increase of Rs. 40,000 over those of the corresponding period of the previous year and the revised estimate for 1913-14 has been passed for Rs. 8,67,000. The increase is chiefly due to unusually large receipts from Magisterial fines. The estimate for 1914-15 is Rs. 8,95,000.

22. *Jails.*—The actuals in 1912-13 amounted to Rs. 7,03,353 while the receipts in the first nine months of 1913-14 show an increase of Rs. 31,000

over those of the corresponding period of last year chiefly for larger cash sales of manufactured articles. The budget estimate for 1913-14 has accordingly been raised from Rs. 6,59,000 to Rs. 7,26,000 in the revised estimate and the estimate for 1914-15 has been passed for Rs. 7,23,000.

23. *Police.*—The budget estimate for 1913-14 was Rs. 1,62,000. This has been raised to Rs. 1,65,000 in the revised estimate with reference to the actuals of the first nine months of the current year. The estimate for 1914-15 is Rs. 1,77,000.

24. *Ports and Pilotage.*—The budget estimate for 1913-14 was Rs. 18,00,000. This has been reduced to Rs. 16,40,000 in the revised estimate with reference to the actuals of the first nine months of the year which show a decrease of Rs. 75,000 as compared with the figures for the corresponding period of last year. The decrease is under pilotage receipts and is due to a reduction in the number of vessels entering and leaving the Calcutta port, and specially to a certain number of vessels entering and leaving the port in ballast, thus affecting the earnings, as such vessels are of a draught much less than that of vessels clearing with cargo. In view of the increase in the Pilotage receipts in the past, the estimate for 1914-15 has been passed for Rs. 17,16,000 against Rs. 16,95,556, the actuals of 1911-12 and Rs. 17,52,191 the actuals of 1912-13.

25. *Education.*—The Budget estimate for 1913-14 was Rs. 7,51,000. This has been raised to Rs. 8,15,000 in the revised estimates, with reference to the actuals of the first nine months of the year. The improvement is mainly due to increases in fees from Government Colleges and Schools—General. The estimate for 1914-15 is Rs. 8,62,000.

26. *Medical.*—The Budget estimate for 1913-14 was Rs. 3,76,000 against Rs. 4,26,733, the actuals of 1912-13. The actuals of 1912-13 include Rs. 50,000 credited as a special contribution from the Indian Research Fund Association, for carrying out experiments in jungle-clearing in suitable localities. The actual collections in the current year, however, show increases chiefly under Medical College fees and under medicine sold by Civil Surgeons and the revised estimate for 1913-14 has been passed for Rs. 4,00,000. The estimate for 1914-15 is Rs. 3,97,000.

27. *Scientific and other Minor Departments.*—The estimate for 1913-14 was Rs. 2,26,000 against Rs. 2,17,931 the actuals of 1912-13. The collections from the sale of quinine and cinchona in the first eight months amounted to Rs. 1,07,000 against Rs. 21,000 in the corresponding period of the previous year. The revised estimate under this sub-head has been raised from Rs. 1,07,000 to Rs. 2,00,000 and the total estimate under this head has been raised from Rs. 2,26,000 to Rs. 3,13,000. The estimate for 1914-15 has been placed at Rs. 2,72,000 as it is not expected that the demand for quinine in that year will be as high as in 1913-14.

28. *Receipts in aid of superannuation.*—The estimate for 1913-14 was Rs. 42,000, but in the revised estimate this has been reduced to Rs. 38,000 in view of the actual collections of the first nine months of the year. The estimate for 1914-15 has been placed at Rs. 39,000.

29. *Stationery and Printing.*—The estimate for 1913-14 was Rs. 1,30,000 against Rs. 1,20,103 the actuals of 1912-13. The actuals of eight months of 1913-14, however, show an increase of Rs. 6,000 over those of the corresponding period of last year and the revised estimate for 1913-14 has been placed at Rs. 1,25,000. The estimate for 1914-15 is Rs. 1,20,000.

30. *Miscellaneous.*—The estimate under this head for 1913-14 was Rs. 5,91,000 against Rs. 7,72,339 the actuals of 1912-13 which included very heavy receipts (Rs. 6,38,026) from unclaimed deposits. These deposits, which are likely to lapse at the close of the year, may amount to Rs. 5,35,000, and the total revised estimate under this head has been placed at Rs. 6,78,000 as the sale-proceeds of tents from Government House stock at Dacca realized Rs. 5,634 and the sale of land to the Railway at Chittagong brought in Rs. 11,540. The estimate for 1914-15 has been passed for Rs. 5,92,000 as the estimate under unclaimed deposits has been placed at Rs. 4,80,000.

31. *Irrigation—Major Works (Direct Receipts).*—The estimate for 1913-14 was Rs. 2,80,000 against Rs. 2,73,918 the actuals of 1912-13. The actual collections in the first eight months of 1913-14 show a decrease of

Rs. 8,000, chiefly owing to the silting up of the Hijili Tidal Canal, which reduced the navigation receipts. The water-rates in the Midnapore Canal are also expected to fall short owing to reduction in the irrigated area and the revised estimate has been placed at Rs. 2,50,000. An increase in the irrigated area in the Midnapore Canal is expected in 1914-15 and the estimate has been passed for Rs. 2,67,000. The provincial share is one-half and amounts to Rs. 1,25,000 and Rs. 1,33,000 in 1913-14 and 1914-15, respectively.

32. *Irrigation—Minor Works and Navigation in charge of the Public Works Department.*—The estimate for 1913-14 was Rs. 6,85,000 against Rs. 6,40,210 the actuals of 1912-13. The actual collections in the first nine months of 1913-14 show a decrease of Rs. 74,000 as compared with the figures for the corresponding period of 1912-13 chiefly in the Madaripore Bheel route on account of concessions granted to steamer companies and in the Calcutta and Eastern Canals owing to the deficiency in the rice and jute traffic. The revised estimate has been reduced to Rs. 5,66,000. Receipts are expected on account of the levy of tolls on the Magrahat drainage from 1914-15 and the estimate has been passed for Rs. 6,10,000. The provincial share is one-half and amounts to Rs. 2,83,000 for 1913-14 and Rs. 3,05,000 for 1914-15.

33. *Civil Works in charge of the Public Works Department.*—The budget estimate for 1913-14 was Rs. 3,69,000 against Rs. 3,85,036 the actuals of 1912-13. The actual receipts in the first nine months of 1913-14 show an increase of Rs. 35,000 over those of the corresponding period of last year and the revised estimate for 1913-14 has been placed at Rs. 4,14,000. The increase is due to sale-proceeds of certain buildings. Excluding the special receipts in 1913-14 the estimate for 1914-15 has been passed for Rs. 3,85,000 the actuals of 1912-13.

EXPENDITURE.

34. *Refunds and Drawbacks.*—The total Provincial expenditure in 1914-15 is estimated at Rs. 1,35,000, against Rs. 1,41,000, the Budget estimate for 1913-14, and Rs. 1,44,035, the actuals of 1912-13. The estimates under this head are based, as usual, on the average actuals of the previous three years, excluding special payments. The actuals of 1910-11 included a special payment of Rs. 22,500 and those of 1911-12 a payment of Rs. 6,500 under Land Revenue. The actuals of 1912-13 also included special payments of Rs. 6,000 and Rs. 8,000 under Stamps. The revised estimate for the current year has been placed at Rs. 1,38,000.

35. *Assignments and Compensations.*—The estimate for 1913-14 was Rs. 33,000. The revised estimate has however been raised to Rs. 45,000 with reference to the actuals of the first nine months, against Rs. 50,905, the actuals of 1912-13. The estimate for 1914-15 is Rs. 43,000. The variations are due to payment of fluctuating *malikana*.

36. *Land Revenue.*—The total provincial expenditure for 1914-15 is estimated at Rs. 35,33,000, against Rs. 32,64,000, the revised, and Rs. 33,48,000, the Budget estimate, for 1913-14 as shown below :—

	1913-14.		1914-15.
	Budget.	Revised.	Budget.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
(1) Charges of District Administration ...	26,50,000	26,09,000	27,01,000
(2) Charges on account of Land Revenue collections	10,000	13,000	10,000
(3) Management of Government Estates ...	4,72,000	4,41,000	5,68,000
(4) Survey and Settlement ...	1,82,000	1,75,000	2,13,000
(5) Land Records ...	33,000	26,000	41,000
(6) Charges on account of fishery collection ...	1,000	.....	.....
Total ...	33,48,000	32,64,000	35,33,000

Under (1) provision has been made for an additional District Magistrate of the 24-Parganas and for the consequent additional Joint-Magistrate, for revision of the Kanungo establishment, for the purchase of a launch for the District Officer, Faridpur, for the purchase of iron safes for district and sub-divisional treasuries, larger provision for diet and travelling allowance to witnesses, law charges, and remuneration to copyists. The estimate under (3) includes special additional grants of Rs. 50,000 for the improvement of Government Estates and Rs. 67,000 for the reclamation of Sunderbans in the district of Bakarganj. The estimate under (4) amounts to Rs. 2,13,000 and includes Rs. 43,000 for the new survey school at Comilla. The variations under (5) are due to the debit of cost of the Director of Land Records to the different Imperial settlement operations. The estimate for 1914-15 includes Rs. 5,000 for the reorganization of his office.

37. *Stamps.*—The sanctioned estimate for 1913-14 was Rs. 7,25,000 which has been raised to Rs. 7,27,000 in the revised owing to the payment of heavier charges for the sale of general stamps against savings in the grant for stamp paper. The budget for 1914-15 is Rs. 7,52,000 and follows the revised, but provides for larger issue of stamp paper from Central Stores.

38. *Excise.*—The total expenditure for 1913-14 was originally estimated at Rs. 6,69,000, but in the revised estimate this has been reduced to Rs. 6,29,000 owing to the lapse of the lump provision of Rs. 50,000 for the reorganization of the department. The budget for 1914-15 is Rs. 8,77,000 and includes Rs. 1,50,000 for the reorganization, Rs. 50,000 for the construction of boats and launches and Rs. 50,000 for the construction of quarters.

39. *Provincial Rates.*—The cost of collections of the cesses and the valuation and revaluation charges will in the first instance be incurred by the District Officers but ultimately recovered from District Boards while transferring the cesses to those bodies so that nothing will fall on the general revenues.

40. *Assessed Taxes.*—The budget grant for 1913-14 is Rs. 1,57,000 but Rs. 1,51,000 has been adopted as the estimate for 1914-15. The decrease is due to the amalgamation of the establishment of the Board of Revenue with the Civil Secretariat.

41. *Forests.*—The sanctioned estimate for 1913-14 was Rs 6,76,000 but in the revised estimate this has been reduced to Rs. 6,40,000 with reference to the actuals of the first nine months of the year. The decrease is due to the full complement of officers and executive establishment not being employed. The budget for 1914-15 amounts to Rs. 7,27,000 and includes the following items besides small items mentioned in paragraph 10 above :—

	Rs.
Reconstruction of Divisional officer's Bungalow at Kalimpong	8,000
Purchase of two elephants for the Chittagong Hill Tracts Division	6,000
Construction of four accommodation boats and two water boats for the Sunderbans	11,600
Provision for new boilers for the launches *Hawk* and *Helen Grey* of the Sunderbans Division	10,500
Reconstruction of Divisional officer's bungalow at Buxa Duars	8,000

42. *Registration.*—The estimate for 1913-14 is Rs. 11,16,000 but in the revised this has been reduced to Rs. 11,01,000 owing to the delay in the reorganization of the office establishment of the District Sub-Registrars. The budget for 1914-15 is Rs. 11,99,000 and includes the following items :—

	Rs.
Registrar of Joint Stock Companies and his office	21,858
Lump provision for increasing the leave reserve	19,900
Lump provision for increase of salary of District Sub-Registrars	8,100

	Rs.
Lump provision for revision of the cadre of Sub-Registrars	4,500
Provision for revision of the ministerial establishments in the head-quarters offices	45,610
Increased grant for record racks ...	2,000
Grant for the purchase of type-writers ...	3,000
Provision for cost of remitting salaries, etc., in Western Bengal Districts	3,000

43. *Interest on Ordinary Debt.*—This is interest payable from the Provincial revenues to the Imperial Government on the amount advanced by the latter to the Provincial Government for loans to cultivators, under the Agriculturists' Loans and Land Improvements Loans Acts, for advances to Co-operative Societies, for advances on drainage and embankment schemes, for loans to notabilities and to municipalities and other public corporations (excluding Presidency Corporations).

44. *General Administration.*—The estimate for 1913-14 was Rs. 23,02,000, but in the revised estimate this has been raised to Rs. 24,54,000. The increase is chiefly for larger expenditure on His Excellency's tour, for deputation of several special officers in the Civil Secretariat, for the purchase of books and furniture for the Council Library and Legislative Department and larger expenditure on Tour charges and contingencies of the members of the Executive Council. The estimate for 1914-15 amounts to Rs. 23,53,000 and includes Rs. 19,627 for the maintenance and improvements of the railway saloon carriages, larger grant for allowances and contingencies of the offices of the Private Secretary to Governor and the Military Secretary to Governor according to requirements, Rs. 5,000 for allowances to reporters and Rs. 5,000 for the purchase of books for the Council Library.

45. *Law and Justice—Courts of Law.*—The budget estimate for 1913-14 was Rs. 96,10,000, but the revised estimate has been raised to Rs. 99,53,000 with reference to the actual charges of the first nine months of the year, which were chiefly enhanced by the expenditure on law charges and fees to counsel in connection with the trial of Damodar Deara suit in Burdwan and the Barisal conspiracy case and debit of grain compensation charges by transfer from 32—Miscellaneous. The estimate for 1914-15 is Rs. 99,53,000 and includes the following provisions :—

	Rs.
An additional Judge for High Court ...	48,000
Establishment for the additional Judge, High Court	5,148
New Inspector of Judicial offices	18,000
Three short-hand writers in the High Court ...	4,500
Rewiring the electric installation of High Court ...	10,000
Lump provision for the preservation of memorial portraits	2,000
Additional grant for copying special appeals and pleadings	5,000
Additional grant for fees to pleaders in criminal cases	70,000
Additional establishment for the new Police Courts, Calcutta	6,048
Reorganization of the Calcutta Small Cause Court ...	10,075
Lump provision for increase of pay of the last grade of Munsifs	21,000
Increased provision for the appointment of additional Sub-Deputy Collectors in connection with the Chaukidari Circle System	25,000
Establishment of a court and detention house for juvenile offenders	17,400

46. *Jails.*—The estimate for 1913-14 is Rs. 20,79,000, but in the revised estimate this has been raised to Rs. 22,76,000 with reference to the actuals of the first nine months of the year. The increase is mainly due to larger dieting charges and partly also to larger purchase of raw materials in the Presidency Jail at Alipore. The estimate for 1914-15 is Rs. 20,76,000. It

includes smaller provision for purchase of raw materials, but provides Rs. 40,000 for the revision of warders' service and Rs. 10,000 for new machinery for the Dacca Central Jail.

47. *Police.*—The following table shows the figures under this head :—

HEADS.	Actuals, 1912-13.	1913-14 Budget.	1913-14 Revised.	Estimate, 1914-15.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs	Rs.
Presidency Police ...	14,49,110	16,60,000	16,15,000	17,25,000
Superintendence ...	2,22,171	2,25,000	2,69,000	2,62,000
Criminal Investigation Department ...	4,06,163	3,83,000	4,30,000	4,95,000
District Executive Force	56,96,249	67,22,000	64,74,000	80,74,000
Village Police ...	19,874	23,000	16,000	36,000
Special	3,01,053	2,51,000	2,64,000	2,42,000
Railway	3,01,972	3,16,000	3,36,000	3,13,000
Cattle-pounds ...	134	300	200	250
Refunds	3,133	1,700	3,800	2,750
Lump deduction ...	....	.....	....	— 2,50,000
Total ...	83,99,859	95,82,000	94,08,000	1,08,98,000

In view of the actuals of the first nine months of 1913-14, the revised estimate has been placed at Rs 94,08,000. The decrease is due to smaller expenditure on Presidency police and to partial utilization of lump provisions for Police reforms and River Police reorganization The estimate for 1914-15 is Rs. 1,08,98,000. It includes the following charges :—

		Rs.
Provision for raising the reserve of the Calcutta Police to its authorized strength .		65,000
Additional Police force for Criminal Investigation Department and Special Branch, Calcutta ...		12,258
Conveyance allowance of Deputy Commissioners of Police, Calcutta		5,625
Additional Sub-Inspectors for Entally and Chitpur thanas		5,280
Additional Police staff for decentralization of the Police Court, Lal Bazar		12,680
Additional staff, etc., for the Calcutta Police Training School		33,455
Additional Police staff to guard the Government Dockyard, Kidderpore		6,000
Additional Police staff to regulate traffic at the landing stages of the Port Commissioners' Ferry Service (total cost)		9,350
Provision for a steam cutter and crew for the River Police, Calcutta (total cost)		12,805
Revision of the Superior Police cadre ...		33,600
Reorganization of the subordinate Police in the Eastern Bengal districts	Recurring ...	91,470
	Non-recurring	3,13,385

	Rs.
Regrading of Sub-Inspectors and head-constables in Eastern Bengal districts	37,800
Lump provision for increase of pay and privileges of head-constables and constables ...	4,75,000
Allowances to police officers in certain portions of Jalpaiguri and Darjeeling on account of expenses of living and other disadvantages ...	14,721
Purchase of Charitable Dispensary at Mymensingh for accommodation of Police	60,000
Reorganization of the River Police in the Eastern Bengal districts ... ... Recurring ...	71,512
Reorganization of the River Police in the Eastern Bengal districts ... ... Non-recurring	4,50,265
Extra cost in connection with the division of the East Indian Railway jurisdiction between Bengal and Bihar	6,278
Strengthening of the armed police reserve ...	13,934
Establishment of armed posts at Madaripur ...	12,168
Increase of pay of Sergeants	9,000
Increase of cadre of Deputy Superintendents ...	17,100
Strengthening of headquarters treasury guards ...	6,386
Armed posts in the Dacca Division	27,720
Raising the conveyance allowance of subordinate police officers	12,900
Strengthening of the armed Police detachments in subdivisions of Western Bengal	20,220
Reorganization of the Military Police	79,197
Establishment of new police-stations at Asansol ...	23,144
Supply of mosquito nets	17,600
Ditto iron cots	10,560
Station boat scheme	12,878
Settling of *Karwal nats* of the Rajshahi Division under the Criminal Tribes Act	26,600
Increase of pay of Daffadars	18,314
Purchase of elephants	5,000
Supply of boxes to police officers for safe custody of case diaries	4,527
Provision for completion of launch for the Deputy Inspector-General of Police, Dacca	18,135
Construction of a launch for the Assistant Superintendent of Police, Munshigunj ...	38,938
Alterations to the steam launch *Warden* ...	8,090
Temporary force for the Criminal Intelligence Branch	75,851
Appointment of a fourth Range Deputy Inspector-General	25,600

48. *Ports and Pilotage.*—The estimate for 1913-14 was Rs. 13,74,000 but in the revised estimate this has been raised to Rs. 14,36,000 for the adjustment under this head of the grant of Rs. 1,50,000 made to the Chittagong Port which was estimated under Civil Works in charge of Civil officers. Against this addition a large reduction in expenditure is expected in the grant under Pilotage establishment owing to the decline in pilotage receipts. The estimate for 1914-15 amounts to Rs. 15,39,000 and includes larger grant for pilotage establishment due to anticipated trade activity as well as the payment of Rs. 1,50,000 to the Chittagong Port Fund.

45. *Education.*—The following table shows the charges under this head since 1909-10 :—

Heads	Actuals				1913-14		1914-15
	1909-10	1910-11	1911-12	1912-13	Budget	Revised	Budget
	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs
University ...	1,03,000	96,000	66,028	5,15,000	1,18,500	1,18,500	1,20,000
Direction ...	1,18,000	1,42,000	2,17,189	1,78,080	1,40,000	1,44,000	1,67,000
Inspection ...	7,12,000	7,31,000	8,04,480	7,82,598	8,12,000	7,79,000	7,89,000
Government Colleges, General ...	6,25,000	6,95,000	8,17,976	8,50,209	8,75,000	8,56,000	8,99,000
Government Colleges, Professional ...	3,54,000	3,17,000	3,33,128	4,00,575	3,92,500	3,98,000	3,72,000
Government Schools, General ...	12,61,000	12,84,000	14,38,548	19,81,325	15,47,000	22,06,000	11,73,000
Government Schools, Special ...	5,65,000	5,76,000	5,75,620	5,98,433	7,72,000	6,01,000	6,88,000
Grants-in-aid ...	10,72,000	11,81,000	14,28,094	17,24,594	1[illegible],20,000	22,80,000	15,06,000
Scholarships ...	1,71,000	1,91,000	2,19,049	2,24,400	2,34,000	2,41,000	2,44,000
Miscellaneous ...	1,15,000	1,18,000	2,17,307	1,20,518	1,65,000	7,37,000	1,40,000
Refunds ...	4,000	3,000	2,454	1,097	2,500	2,500	2,000
Lump provision for non-recurring expenditure ...	...		...	...	7,45,000	...	5,11,000
Lump provision for improving popular education ...	...	...	...	..	9,27,000	97,000	11,72,000
Lump provision for regrant of savings of 1912-13 ...	...	..	..	..	3,32,000		
Lump provision for secondary education ...	...	...	...	...	1,50,000		
Lump provision for regrant of savings of 1912-13 ...	...	.	.	.	48,000	...	1,28,000
Lump provision for female education	...		.	.		..	30,000
Lump provision for hostels outside Calcutta and Dacca	..	..			2,43,000	..	2,17,000
Lump provision for hostels in Calcutta	...	...	..		8,50,000	...	8,70,000
Expenditure from the non-recurring assignment of 75 lakhs ...	...	...	...	..	24,80,000	...	30,00,000
Expenditure of the recurring grant ...	...	...	.	..	13,20,000	...	13,20,000
Lump provision for regrant of savings of above grant for 1913-14 ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12,00,000
Further grant ...	...	...	...	...	..	..	1,50,000
Dacca University and hostels (non-recurring) ...	...	...	...	...	3,00,000	...	3,00,000
Ditto (recurring)	..	...	...	...	..	..	45,000
Lump deduction ...	...	...	...	...	—3,78,500	..	—5,00,000
Total ...	51,00,000	53,34,000	61,21,873	73,76,829	1,34,88,000	85,10,000	1,45,43,000

The estimate for 1913-14 was Rs. 1,34,88,000 but in the revised estimate this has been reduced to Rs. 85,10,000 with reference to the actuals of the first nine months of the year. The decrease is chiefly due to partial utilization of the Imperial grants and the stoppage of the equilibrium grant on the surrender of the Public Works Cess to the District Boards and to the transfer of the provision of Rs. 50,000 for the Comilla Survey School to the head 3—Land Revenue. The budget for 1914-15 includes the following items :—

	Rs.
Assistant Director of Public Instruction for Muhammadan Education	26,720
Appointment of a wholetime Professor of Geology	4,200

	Rs.
Provision for the creation of 3 additional Provincial Educational Service appointments ...	10,200
Provision for revision of the establishment of the Director of Public Instruction	11,900
Personal allowances of 2 Inspectors of Schools ...	4,200
Increase of pay of existing Maulvies and appointment of additional maulvies	2,680
Personal and other allowances to heads of colleges	10,000

50. *Medical.*—The budget grant for 1913-14 was Rs. 41,01,000. This has been reduced to Rs. 29,00,000 in the revised estimate with reference to the actuals of the first nine months of the year. The decrease is chiefly due to savings to the extent of 10 lakhs in the grant for expenditure on sanitation, Rs. 80,000 in the lump grant for medical relief, Rs. 50,000 for jungle clearing, one lakh for the School of Tropical Medicine and to non-utilization of the provision for the purchase of quinine by the Sanitary Commissioner for sale in the Eastern Bengal districts. The estimate for 1914-15 is Rs. 17,81,000 and includes the following items —

	Rs.
Provision for the revision of Civil Surgeons' offices	2,000
Teaching allowances to the three Resident Surgeons and Physicians, Medical College Hospital	7,200
Provision for an Obstetric Registrar, Medical College Hospital	1,200
Increased grant for medical stores, Medical College Hospital	15,000
Increase of staff allowances of the Military Assistant Surgeons attached to the General Hospital	2,000
Provision for jungle-clearing	50,000
Improvement of nursing arrangements in mufassal hospitals	25,000
Lump grant for the School of Tropical Medicine for construction (not utilized in 1913-14) ...	1,00,000
Lump grant for equipment for the School of Tropical Medicine	50,000
Lump grant for medical relief being the unspent balance of 1913-14	80,000
Lump grant for non-recurring expenditure on sanitation	18,82,772
Lump grant for recurring expenditure ...	9,50,000
Total	31,65,172
Lump deduction for probable savings ...	10,00,000
	21,65,172

itherto the Sanitary grants have been shown partly under Medical and partly under Civil Works: this year for convenience they have all been shown under this head.

The grants for Presidency Hospitals are shown below :—

	Salaries.	Establishment.	Allowances	Clothing and bedding.	Diet.	Other supplies.	Contingencies.	Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs	Rs.
Medical College Hospital	59,190	21,080	200	86,000		94,000	1,01,530	3,62,000
General Hospital ...	68,173	9,528	1,360	77,000		33,500	62,439	2,52,000
Campbell Hospital ...	13,560	26,608	8,300	36,000		15,500	43,032	1,43,000
Albert Victor Asylum for Lepers ...	7,200	3,552	180	17,000		1,200	7,868	37,000

52. *Political.*—The estimate for 1914-15 is Rs. 29,000, which is also the budget grant for 1913-14, against Rs. 30,000, the revised estimate for the current year. The increase in the current year is due to larger payments for Durbar presents owing to the installation of the new Maharaja of Cooch Bihar.

53. *Scientific and other Minor Departments.*—The total charges under this head for 1913-14 were originally estimated at Rs. 17,13,000, but in the revised estimate this has been reduced to Rs. 15,32,000. The decrease is chiefly due to savings in expenditure from the Imperial grant for agriculture. Rupees 30,000 was transferred to the Forest Department and the balance was not fully spent. Savings were also effected in the grants for the Agricultural Department, Botanic Gardens and Fishery Department. The estimate for 1914-15 is Rs. 17,30,000 and includes the following provisions :—

	Rs.
For non-recurring improvements of the Agricultural Department	1,00,000
Regrant of the unspent balance of the Imperial grant for Agricultural Department	52,000
Regrant of the unspent balance of the Imperial grant for Cinchona Department	29,975
One Deputy Director of Agriculture	6,000
Appointment of two Supervisors	4,800
Provision for fieldmen-demonstrators	21,060
Ditto for overseers and servants for Rangpur Dairy Farm	3,875
Provision for purchase and feed of cattle for Rangpur Dairy Farm	17,000
Provision for implements and machinery for Rangpur Dairy Farm	14,000
Provision for petty construction and reclamation, etc., of Rangpur Dairy Farm	30,800
Provision for an additional Inspector of Factories	4,800
Provision for registration of steamer-borne trade at Bhairab Bazar in Mymensingh	1,200
Provision for contribution to the Eastern Bengal State Railway for the construction of a bungalow for the Assistant Superintendent of Emigration at Goalundo	3,000

54. *Superannuation.*—The estimate for 1913-14 is Rs. 30,22,000, but in the revised this has been raised to Rs. 31,09,000, owing chiefly to the provision for commuted value of pensions to the extent of Rs. 75,000. The budget

for 1914-15 amounts to Rs. 32,31,000 as the charges under this head tend to rise year after year owing to increase in the number of pensioners.

55. *Stationery and Printing.*—The following table shows the charges under this head :—

HEADS.	Actuals. 1912-13.	Budget estimate, 1913-14.	Revised estimate. 1913-14.	Budget estimate, 1914-15.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Forms Department at the Presidency ...	52,002	59,000	57,000	71,000
Stationery purchased in this country ..	23,130	25,000	24,000	25,000
Government presses ...	6,24,717	6,24,000	6,40,000	6,84,000
Printing at private presses	1,222	4,000	2,000	2,000
Stationery supplied from Central Stores ...	6,32,102	6,46,000	8,13,000	6,60,000
Refunds	1,256	2,000	3,000	2,000
Total ...	13,34,429	13,60,000	15,39,000	14,44,000

The increased provision under Forms Department is for the payment of allowances to assistants of that office on the introduction of Jail hours on its transfer to the jail. The increase under Government presses is due to larger provision for plant, furniture and contingencies and a lump provision for additional establishment required for the removal of a portion of the press from the Writers' Buildings to Koila Ghât Street.

56. *Miscellaneous.*—The budget estimate for 1913-14 was Rs. 9,53,000, but in the revised estimate this has been reduced to Rs. 7,16,000. The reduction is chiefly due to the adjustment, under appropriate heads, of the expenditure on grain compensation allowance and the charges sanctioned by His Excellency from the provision for petty grants, and to the reappropriation of the reserve provision of Rs. 1,50,000, in order to meet expenditure under other heads. Against these transfers additional charges were incurred for the District Administration and the Calcutta Port Facilities Committee and the expenditure on gratuitous relief in flooded areas, for which there were no provisions in the budget. Special payments were also made to the Prisoners' Aid Society for acquisition of land, to the "Refuge" for regrant of the undrawn grant for 1912-13, to the Calcutta Orphanage and the Anath Bhandar for the purchase of buildings. The estimate for 1914-15 is Rs. 10,81,000, and includes a lump provision of Rs. 1,00,000 for the payment of grain compensation allowance for all departments : Rs. 1,00,000 to be placed at the disposal of His Excellency for petty grants, Rs. 1,50,000 for general reserve for unforeseen requirements, Rs. 20,000 for District Administration Committee, Rs. 3,000 for the Port Facilities Committee, Rs. 50,000 for gratuitous relief in the flooded area and Rs. 26,000 being the amount recently sanctioned by the Government of India on account of recoveries from local bodies which will be remitted, it being assumed for estimate purposes that the increase will result in an increase of expenditure, though in most cases there will actually be a reduction in revenue. A corresponding assignment has been given from the Imperial revenues for the purpose.

57. *Irrigation—Major Works (Working Expenses).*—The estimate for 1913-14 amounting to Rs. 2,40,000 has been raised to Rs. 3,06,000 in the revised estimate for the inclusion of the charges for silt-clearance, Range II and Gewankhally supply channel of the Hijili Tidal Canal. The estimate for 1914-15 has been passed for Rs. 2,96,000 and includes Rs. 45,000 for silt-clearance in the Main canal and supply channel of the Hijili Tidal Canal and also to some special repairs to the distributaries of the Midnapore Canal. The provincial share is one-half and amounts to Rs. 1,53,000 for 1913-14 and Rs. 1,48,000 for 1914-15.

58. *Irrigation—Minor Works and Navigation in charge of the Public Works Department.*—The actual charges in 1912-13 amounted to Rs. 15,36,307 and the estimate for 1913-14 was Rs. 18,66,000. Additional grants have been sanctioned during the year for repairs to embankments damaged by floods, and silt-clearance of the Protapkhally khal in the district of Midnapore and the revised estimate for 1913-14 has been passed for Rs. 19,94,000. The estimate for 1914-15 amounts to Rs. 22,38,000 and includes the following special provisions :—

	Rs.
Clearing the bed of the Saraswati River in connection with the Rajapur Drainage Works ...	54,000
Works in connection with the Jessore Drainage Division	20,000
Dredging the entrance of the Bhagirathi and Gorai rivers	16,000
Construction of a new sluice below Jujuti in connection with the Eden Canal	35,000
Increased provision for maintenance and repairs of the Magrahat Drainage scheme	20,000
Flood damage repairs	2,12,000
Dredging the Angeria creek	1,70,000
Dredging the Attarabanka Shoal	30,000
Dredging the Puttimari Channel	80,000
Permanent protection of the Hooghly left embankment at Diamond Harbour	80,000
Purchase of spare parts of the dredger *Foyers* for repairs to damage done by serious accidents	21,000

The Provincial share is one-half and amounts to Rs. 9,97,000 for 1913-14 and Rs. 11,19,000 for 1914-15.

59. *Minor Works and Navigation in charge of the Civil Department.*—The estimate for 1914-15 is Rs. 8,000 against Rs. 3,000, the budget grant for 1913-14. The estimate for 1914-15 includes Rs. 5,000 for grant-in-aid for bandalling the Ganges near Rampur-Boalia.

60. *Civil Works in charge of the Public Works Department.*—The estimate of expenditure for 1914-15 has been placed at Rs. 89,59,000, including Rs. 6,40,000 for discretionary grants, out of 12 lakhs sanctioned by the Government of India in 1913. The following table shows budget grants for 1913-14 and 1914-15 with the revised estimate for 1913-14 :—

	1913-14.		1914-15
	Budget	Revised	Budget.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Original works ...	43,93,317	47,81,000	55,59,000
Repairs	18,92,600	19,57,000	21,83,000
Establishment ...	11,07,083	10,20,000	11,47,000
Tools and plant ...	37,000	39,000	70,000
Stock and suspense	...	3,000	...
Total ...	74,30,000	78,00,000	89,59,000

The grant for next year on original works is chiefly distributed thus :—

	Rs.
Residences—	
Public Works Department	60,000
Civil	1,00,000
Medical	50,000
Judicial	50,000
Police	3,00,000
Deputy Collectors	25,000

	Rs.
Sanitation—House for Deputy Sanitary Commissioner, Rajshahi	21,300
Offices—	
Civil	2,50,000
Judicial	1,50,000
Excise Warehouses	50,000
Police—	
Dullunda Training School	1,00,000
Lal Bazar	50,000
Jails	75,000
Registration	75,000
Public Works Department	50,000
Medical School of Tropical Medicine	3,00,000
Roads	10,00,000
Education—Drainage of Victoria School, Kurseong ...	58,500

61. *Civil Works in charge of the Civil Department.*—The estimate for 1913-14 was Rs. 30,20,000 but in the revised estimate this has been reduced to Rs. 28,30,000 partly owing to the transfer of Rs. 1,50,000, for the grant to the Chittagong Port to the head "21—Ports and Pilotage" and to the non-utilization of the full allotment for works of sanitary improvement. The estimate for 1914-15 amounts to Rs. 20,77,000 and includes the following :—

	Rs.
Grant to the Calcutta Improvement Trust ...	11,50,000
Special grants for feeder roads	50,000
Augmentation grant	5,86,000
Grant for the improvement of roads in Government estates	67,618
Special grants at the disposal of the Divisional Commissioners	1,00,000
Do. do. District Magistrates ...	52,000
Lump provision for pay of sub-overseers in connection with rural water-supply	14,000

No provision has been made under this head for grants for works of sanitary improvement which will in future be provided for wholly under Medical Department. The following are the principal items sanctioned or earmarked for the works of sanitary improvement in the year, 1913-14 :—

	Rs.
Subsidy to the Dacca Municipality for expenditure on conservancy	7,500
Cost of establishment to be maintained during 1913-14 for anti-malarial operations in Western Duars	7,000
Cost of staff of Dr. Bentley's field laboratory for 1913-14	2,700
Construction of quarters for the cooly establishment attached to the Animal Vaccination Depôt, Entally, and small alterations to the Depôt ...	9,930
Chittagong Municipality for jungle-clearing ...	750
Bhatpara Drainage	10,000
Howrah "	1,00,000
Sanitary Improvement in the town of Chittagong	20,000
Kalimpong water-supply	7,529
Sukeapukri "	1,788
Sanitary arrangements in connection with the Lower Ganges Bridge	8,508

	Rs.
Improvement of water-supply to the Lower Homes, Kalimpong	5,000
Bhadreswar Drainage	17,500
Anti-malarial measures	14,000
Kurigram Drainage	2,000
Dacca Municipality for conservancy arrangements in connection with the concentration of troops	9,538
Dacca Municipality for water-supply in connection with the concentration of troops	1,548
Cost of experiments in connection with Calcutta Sewage under Sanitary Commissioner ...	50,000
Tangail Drainage	9,616
Improvement of water-supply in the Harirampur Thana, Dacca	15,400
Hooghly-Chinsurah water-works	50,000
Burdwan Municipality for extension of water-supply	33,000
Grants to District Boards for improvement of rural water-supply	42,947
Uttarpara water-supply	40,300
Asansol ,, ...	62,000
Narayanganj ,, ...	1,00,000
Chittagong ,, ...	2,00,000
Sanitary Improvement, Gaibandha	8,000
Calcutta Corporation for Fringe area drainage ...	42,354
Temporary draftsmen and surveyors in the Sanitary Engineer's Office	30,000

Bengal Provincial Revenue.

Receipts.	Actuals.			1913-14.		191
	1910-11.	1911-12.	1912-13.	Sanctioned estimate.	Revised estimate.	Bu estii
1	2	3	4	5	6	
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	R
Opening balance ...	*	*	1,66,25,000	2,83,23,000	3,13,30,000	3,04,5
Principal Heads of Revenue—						
I—Land Revenue { Proper ...	1,57,35,500	1,57,27,171	1,60,64,024	1,58,49,000	1,57,00,000	1,61,7
I—Land Revenue { Adjustments ...	*	*	+1,46,73,885	+56,43,000	+57,39,000	+57,8
IV—Stamps	96,93,000	1,00,56,288	1,03,71,927	1,07,00,000	1,08,00,000	1,11,6
V—Excise	62,95,000	1,00,41,150	1,37,59,045	1,38,55,000	1,52,00,000	1,55,0
VI—Provincial Rates	32,59,000	31,74,872	32,02,152	90,000	1,23,000	1,1
VIII—Assessed Taxes	25,78,000	26,73,534	27,75,826	28,00,000	32,50,000	30,5
IX—Forests	7,02,000	13,87,465	16,00,601	14,00,000	16,50,000	16,0
X—Registration	16,31,000	17,33,694	18,23,161	19,00,000	19,70,000	20,5
Total ...	3,98,93,500	4,47,94,174	6,42,70,621	5,22,37,000	5,44,32,000	5,54,2
XII—Interest	6,31,000	5,22,205	5,00,713	4,85,000	4,80,000	4,8
Receipts by Civil Department—						
XVI—Law and Justice—						
Courts of Law	7,65,000	7,60,777	8,14,901	7,65,000	8,67,000	8,9
Jails	6,39,000	8,31,424	7,03,353	6,59,000	7,26,000	7,2
XVII—Police	2,03,000	1,87,675	2,39,082	1,62,000	1,65,000	1,7
XVIII—Ports and Pilotage ...	16,97,000	16,95,566	17,52,191	18,00,000	16,40,000	17,1
XIX—Education	6,78,000	7,35,248	7,77,676	7,51,000	8,15,000	8,6
XX—Medical	3,67,000	3,62,976	4,26,733	3,76,000	4,00,000	3,9
XXI—Scientific and other Minor Departments	3,24,000	2,37,053	2,17,931	2,26,000	3,13,000	2,7
Total ...	45,83,000	48,08,709	49,31,867	47,39,000	49,26,000	50,4
Miscellaneous—						
XXII—Receipts in aid of Superannuation	36,000	43,158	48,210	42,000	38,000	39
XXIII—Stationery and Printing ...	1,40,000	1,30,425	1,20,103	1,30,000	1,25,000	1,20
XXV—Miscellaneous	6,14,000	6,35,371	7,72,339	5,91,000	6,78,000	5,92
Total ...	7,90,000	8,08,954	9,40,652	7,63,000	8,41,000	7,51
Irrigation—						
XXIX—Major Works (direct receipts)	2,63,000	1,39,063	1,36,959	1,40,000	1,25,000	1,33,
XXX—Minor Works and Navigation—						
By Public Works Department	5,53,000	3,36,000	3,20,105	3,42,000	2,83,000	3,05,
By Civil Department ...	55,000	25,015	24,925	26,000	25,000	25,
Total ...	8,71,000	5,00,078	4,81,989	5,08,000	4,33,000	4,63,
Buildings and Roads—						
XXXI—Civil Works—						
By Public Works Department	3,71,000	4,62,000	3,85,036	3,69,000	4,14,000	3,85,0
By Civil Department ...	1,53,000	1,55,263	1,42,523	1,55,000	1,44,000	1,44,0
Total ...	5,24,000	6,17,263	5,27,559	5,24,000	5,58,000	5,29,0
Total Receipts ...	4,72,92,500	5,20,51,383	7,16,53,401	5,92,56,000	6,16,70,000	6,26,95,0
Grand Total ...	.....	.....	8,82,78,401	8,75,79,000	9,30,00,000	9,31,25,0

* The opening balances and Land Revenue adjustments for new Bengal cannot be worked out.

Bengal Provincial Expenditure.

Expenditure.	Actuals.			1913-14.		1914-15.
	1910-11.	1911-12.	1912-13.	Sanctioned estimate.	Revised estimate.	Budget estimate.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs	Rs.	Rs.
Direct demand on the Revenues—						
1. Refunds and drawbacks	1,59,000	1,55,121	1,44,035	1,41,000	1,38,000	1,35,000
2. Assignments and Compensations	36,000	37,647	50,905	33,000	45,000	43,000
3. Land Revenue	29,17,000	35,09,257	32,35,128	33,48,000	32,64,000	35,33,000
6. Stamps	3,04,000	3,22,507	3,53,685	3,62,000	3,63,000	3,76,000
7. Excise	2,96,000	4,73,793	5,97,657	6,69,000	6,29,000	8,77,000
8. Provincial Rates	44,000	49,787	39,209	.....	.....	.....
10. Assessed Taxes	75,000	78,116	76,469	78,000	78,000	75,000
11. Forests	3,31,000	7,06,218	6,60,794	6,76,000	6,40,000	7,27,000
12. Registration	10,28,000	10,67,406	10,50,903	11,16,000	11,01,000	11,99,000
Total ...	51,9[illegible],000	63,99,855	62,09,785	64,28,000	62,58,000	69,65,000
13. Interest on ordinary Debt ...	4,85,000	5,10,565	4,42,546	4,33,000	4,39,000	4,34,000
Salaries and Expenses of Civil Department—						
18. General Administration ..	21,74,000	37,35,022	25,46,712	23,02,000	24,54,000	23,53,000
19. Law and Justice { Courts of Law	96,17,000	1,01,44,720	96,39,400	96,10,000	99,53,000	99,53,000
19. Law and Justice { Jails ..	20,70,000	20,51,332	19,61,852	20,79,000	22,76,000	20,76,000
20 Police	81,54,000	87,08,211	83,99,859	95,82,000	94,[illegible]8,000	1,08,98,000
21. Ports and Pilotage	12,87,000	13,27,925	12,[illegible]6,009	13,74,000	14,36,000	15,39,000
22. Education	53,34,000	61,21,873	78,76,829	1,34,88,000	85,10,000	1,45,43,000
24. Medical	24,37,000	26,14,743	26,42,138	41,01,000	29,00,000	47,81,000
25. Political	31,000	22,622	38,976	29,000	30,000	29,000
26. Scientific and other Minor Departments.	14,61,000	14,80,988	16,63,953	17,13,000	15,32,000	17,30,000
Total ...	3,25,65,000	3,62,07,386	3,51,85,703	4,42,78,000	3,84,99,000	4,79,02,000
Miscellaneous—						
29. Superannuation, etc.	26,22,000	27,85,637	29,25,688	30,22,000	31,09,000	32,31,000
30. Stationery and Printing ...	16,54,000	15,79,021	13,34,429	13,60,000	15,39,000	14,44,000
32. Miscellaneous	5,77,000	5,60,371	4,25,610	9,53,000	7,16,000	10,81,000
Total ...	48,53,000	49,25,029	46,85,727	53,35,000	53,64,000	57,56,000
Famine Relief and Insurance—						
33. Famine Relief	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
36. Reduction or avoidance of debt ...	.....	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000
Railways (Revenue Accounts)—						
40. Subsidised Companies—Land, etc.	.....	.....	—363	.....	.....	.....
41. Miscellaneous Railway expenditure	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total ..	.....	60,000	59,657	60,000	60,000	60,000
Irrigation—						
42 Major Works—						
Working expenses	2,65,000	1,38,543	1,17,858	1,20,000	1,53,000	1,48,000
Interest on Debt	3,39,000	1,70,650	1,75,618	1,76,000	1,69,000	1,69,000
43. Minor Works and Navigation—						
By Public Works Department ...	17,40,000	7,83,553	7,68,153	9,83,000	9,97,000	11,19,000
„ Civil Department ...	3,000	1,954	965	1,000	1,000	4,000
Total ...	23,47,000	10,94,700	10,62,594	12,30,000	13,20,000	14,40,000
Buildings and Roads—						
45. Civil Works—						
By Public Works Department ...	63,65,000	61,52,000	63,21,755	74,30,000	78,00,000	89,59,000
„ Civil Department ...	16,74,000	30,27,729	26,80,384	30,20,000	28,30,000	20,77,000
Total ..	80,39,000	91,79,729	90,02,139	1,04,50,000	1,06,30,000	1,10,36,000
Total Charges ...	5,34,79,000	5,8[illegible]77,064	5,69,48,131	6,82,09,000	6,25,70,000	7,35,93,000
Closing balance ...	*	*	8,13,30,270	1,93,70,000	3,04,30,000	1,95,32,000
Grand Total ...	*	*	8,32,78,401	8,75,79,000	9,30,00,000	9,31,25,000
Provincial surplus (+) or deficit (−).	.....	.....	+1,47,05 270	−89,53,000	− 9,00,000	−1,08,98,000

* Please see remarks on receipt side.

APPENDIX A

Bengal Provincial Receipts, in detail of minor heads.

[Figures in columns 6 and 7 are those provisionally passed by the Government of India.]

The remarks in column 8, except where otherwise specially explained, refer to difference between columns 5 and 7.

I.—Land Revenue—

Heads.	1910-11. Actuals.	1911-12. Actuals.	1912-13. Actuals.	1913-14. Sanctioned estimate.	1913-14. Revised estimate.	1914-15. Budget estimate.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Gross Land Revenue	2,69,68,000	2,71,72,317	2,79,87,156	2,83,88,000	2,80,42,000	2,96,64,000	
Deduct collections from Government estates which are wholly provincial ...	45,42,000	43,30,589	47,70,855	44,32,000	43,90,000	47,00,000	The decrease in the revised is for suspensions owing to the floods in Midnapore and Hooghly and the increase in the budget is for expected recovery of suspensions of 1913-14.
Deduct recoveries of cost of maintenance of boundary marks wholly provincial ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	2,000	2,000	A new head opened as requested by the Comptroller-General.
Deduct recoveries of Survey and Settlement charges which are Imperial	39,000	48,564	6,29,962	11,22,000	10,34,000	20,24,000	The decrease in the revised is for smaller recoveries anticipated in Jalpaiguri. Budget includes :— Dacca ... .. Rs. 2,50,000; Faridpur ... ... 7,26,000; Jalpaiguri ... ... 3,00,000; Mymensingh ... ... 5,00,000; Midnapore 2,48,000; 20,24,000
Total Deductions ..	45,81,000	43,79,153	54,00,817	55,54,000	54,26,000	67,26,000	
Net amount divisible between Imperial and Provincial	2,23,87,000	2,27,93,164	2,25,86,339	2,28,34,000	2,26,16,000	2,29,38,000	The decrease in the revised is for suspensions owing to floods and the increase in the budget is for expected recovery of suspensions.
Provincial share of above	1,11,93,500	1,13,96,582	1,12,93,169	1,14,17,000	1,13,08,000	1,14,69,000	
Add collections from Government estates	45,42,000	43,30,589	47,70,855	44,32,000	43,90,000	47,00,000	
Recovery of cost of maintenance of boundary pillars	.....	.....	.....	.....	2,000	2,000	
Total Provincial ...	1,57,35,500	1,57,27,171	1,60,64,024	1,58,49,000	1,57,00,000	1,61,71,000	
Add on account of adjustments as shown on next page			[illegible]	56,49,000	57,20,000	57,84,000	

Adjustments—

From Provincial to Imperial.							
For repairs to Nizamat Palace, Murshidabad			.....	.....	—40,000	.....	This has been sanctioned by the Government of India.
For Law charges on account of Bihar and Orissa			.....	.....	—15,000	—15,000	The charges were formerly paid by Bengal, but will now be paid by Bihar and Orissa Government.
Fixed adjustment under the Provincial Settlement			—7,28,000	—7,28,000	—7,28,000	—7,28,000	
For Collegiate and University expenditure in Bihar and Orissa			.....	.....	—21,000	—21,000	The settlement standard for Bengal included this, but it will now be debited to Bihar Government and paid to colleges in the new province.
For making certain alterations to the buildings of the Calcutta Museum for delivery of popular lectures			.....	.....	—2,000	.....	
Total ...			—7,28,000	—7,28,000	—8,06,000	—7,64,000	
From Imperial to Provincial.							
For Famine Relief scheme			60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	
Grant to the Calcutta Improvement Trust			1,50,000	1,50,000	1,50,000	1,50,000	
Recurring grant for popular education ...			9,25,000	9,25,000	9,25,000	9,25,000	
Recurring grant for aided English secondary schools			1,50,000	1,50,000	1,50,000	1,50,000	
Recurring grant for education of domiciled community (Calcutta)			40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	
Contribution for a grant to the C. M. S. College, Calcutta			.....	.....	6,000	6,000	
For improvement of female education ...			.....	.....	30,000	30,000	
Contribution for maintenance of Traffic Registration office, Bhairab Bazar			.....	.....	...	1,000	
Contribution for Royal Bonus			1,227	.....	.....	.....	
Non-recurring grant for the construction of hostels outside Calcutta and Dacca ...			4,00,000	.....	.....	.....	
Grant for the development of University works, Calcutta			4,00,000	.....	.....	.....	
Ditto (recurring)			65,000	65,000	65,000	65,000	
Assignment for Belgachia Veterinary College			30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	
Ditto recovery of the cost of transmission of records by revised procedure introduced by the Court-fees Act ...			6,440	6,000	6,000	6,000	
Grant for the amalgamation of the clerical establishment of the Art section of the Indian Museum with the School of Art ...			1,190	1,000	1,000	1,000	

Adjustments—concluded.

Heads.	1910-11.	1911-12.	1912-13.	1913-14.		1914-15.	Remarks.
	Actuals.	Actuals.	Actuals.	Sanctioned estimate.	Revised estimate.	Budget estimate.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
From Imperial to Provincial—concluded.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Assignment for remission of certain recoveries from local bodies			.....	.....	.....	26,000	
Non-recurring grant for the construction of hostel buildings in Calcutta			10,00,000	.....	.....	.....	
Non-recurring grant for Dacca University ..			10,00,000	.....	.....	.....	
Recurring ditto ...			45,000	45,000	45,000	45,000	
Contribution from Bihar and Orissa towards pay of electrical staff utilized by it ...			7,572	8,000	8,000	8,000	
Pensions of title-holders			2,7 0	3,000	3,000	3,000	
Lieut.-Colonel Sutherland's deputation for serological enquiry and that of Captain Shingleton Smith			17,256	20,000	32,000	25,000	
Grant of one-half of the salaries of Health Officers to be employed in municipalities			39,000	39,000	39,000	39,000	
Grant for Indian Deputy Sanitary Commissioners			.....	19,000	19,000	19,000	
Cost of supply of forms and printing work done for Bihar and Orissa Government			2,32,000	2,32,000	2,09,000	2,32,000	
Cost of supplying forms to Assam Administration			1,29 500	.....	89,000	1,29,000	
Contribution from Bihar and Orissa in connection with fishery experiments ..			.. ...	16,000	.....	11,000	
Non-recurring assignment for sanitation			20,00,000	.....	...	.....	
Recurring ditto ...			.....	5,00,000	5,00,000	5,00,000	
Assignment for the Chittagong port ..			.. ...	.....	75,000	75,000	Sanctioned for 5 years on condition that this Government gives a corresponding amount to the Port Trust from Provincial revenues.
Non-recurring assignment for discretionary grants			12,00,000	.. ..	.. ...	.....	
Grant for Agriculture and allied objects ...			.. ...	1,50,000	1,50,000	.....	Of this Rs. 50,000 is for Cinchona Department.
Grant for Medical relief			.....	1,00,000	1,00,000	.....	
Recurring assignment in connection with the remission of appropriations from cesses ...			.. ...	24,93,000	24 93,000	24,93,000	
Non-recurring assignment for education ...			75,00,000	...	.....	.....	
Further recurring grant for education ...			.....	13,20,000	13,20,000	13 20,000	
Ditto ditto			.....	.....	... ..	1,60,000	
Assignment in connection with further scientific research by Dr. J. C. Bose for three years			.....	.....	.....	9,000	
Total Imperial to Provincial ...			1,54,01,885	63,71,000	65,45,000	65,48,000	

Sale of general stamps	55,10,000	58,51,102	63,74,686	66,40,000	67,90,000	71,00,000	Normal expansion of revenue.
Do. of court-fee stamps	1,34,51,000	1,38,72,790	1,38,84,986	1,43,10,000	1,42,40,000	1,45,50,000	
Do. of plain paper to be used with court-fee stamps	2,85,000	3,01,012	3,10,308	3,20,000	3,20,000	3,26,000	
Duty on impressing documents	43,000	31,812	57,163	44,000	2,36,000	2,40,000	Increase under this head is due to credit for the sale of embossed cheques as well as the value of stamps impressed by the Controller of Stamps which were formerly credited under General stamps.
Fines and penalties	32,000	34,765	31,923	35,000	33,000	33,000	
Miscellaneous	66,000	21,095	84,787	51,000	71,000	52,000	
Total ...	1,93,86,000	2,01,12,576	2,07,43,853	2,14,00,000	2,16,00,000	2,23,00,000	Revised based on ten months' actuals.
Provincial share ...	96,93,000	1,00,56,288	1,03,71,927	1,07,00,000	1,08,00,000	1,11,50,000	

V.—*Excise*—

License and distillery fees for the sale of liquors and drugs—							
Foreign liquors		3,63,338	3,44,760	4,00,000	3,00,000	3,00,000	
Indian-made liquors excised at tariff rates		2,53,785	2,41,811	2,20,000	3,00,000	3,00,000	
Country spirits—							
License fees—							
Distillery							
Outstills		61,73,266	64,11,686	63,50,000	71,15,000	73,00,000	Increase in revised is from the settlement of shops. Increase in 1914-15 provides for normal expansion.
Still-head duty							
Miscellaneous							
Toddy revenue		4,26,401	4,50,343	4,50,000	4,60,000	4,60,000	
Opium and its preparations		8,11,686	8,96,519	8,50,000	12,00,000	12,00,000	
Other drugs, ganja, bhang, etc. ...		16,18,373	16,32,491	15,30,000	17,50,000	18,00,000	
Pachwai revenue		7,77,794	8,30,129	9,00,000	7,75,000	8,40,000	
Total ...	97,22,000	1,04,24,643	1,08,07,789	1,07,00,000	1,19,00,000	1,22,00,000	
Gain on sale-proceeds of excise opium ...	14,11,000	14,61,000	14,79,610	15,40,000	15,00,000	14,85,000	It is proposed to check the consumption.
Duty on ganja	14,25,000	14,66,420	14,37,379	15,80,000	17,65,000	17,80,000	
Fines, confiscations and miscellaneous ...	32,000	36,137	34,267	35,000	35,000	35,000	
GRAND TOTAL ..	1,25,90,000	1,33,88,200	1,37,59,045	1,38,55,000	1,52,00,000	1,55,00,000	Revised based on ten months' actuals.
Provincial share	62,95,000	1,00,41,150	1,37,59,045	1,38,55,000	1,52,00,000	1,55,00,000	

VI.—*Provincial Rates*—

Public Works Cess	31,65,000	30,83,495	30,96,008	... ..	.....	. ...	These receipts are being surrendered to the District Boards.
General rates for the management of private estates	94,000	91,377	1,06,144	90,000	1,23,000	1,18,000	There were special receipts in Midnapore and Dacca in 1913-14.
Total ...	32,59,000	31,74,872	32,02,152	90,000	1,23,000	1,18,000	

VIII.—Assessed Taxes—

Heads.	1910-11.	1911-12.	1912-13.	1913-14.		1914-15.	Remarks.
	Actuals.	Actuals.	Actuals.	Sanctioned estimate.	Revised estimate.	Budget estimate.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Deductions by Government from salaries and pensions, etc.		4,98,512	4,86,852	4,98,000	4,94,000	4,95,000	
Deductions by Government from interest on Government securities ...		24,009	21,192	24,000	23,000	23,000	
Deductions from salaries, etc., paid by local authorities or companies		88,367	88,660	89,000	86,000	90,000	
Income-tax on securities of local authorities or companies		1,40,809	1,43,568	1,40,000	1,47,000	1,47,000	
Ordinary collections		45,73,669	47,89,658	48,28,000	57,28,000	53,23,000	Increase in revised is due to some of the coal and jute companies and most of the banks having shown large increase in their profits. Increase is not expected in 1914-15.
Deduction from profits of railway companies		403	.....	.....	.. ...	.....	
Penalties		14,194	13,448	14,000	13,000	14,000	
Miscellaneous		7,105	8,274	7,000	9,000	8,000	
Total ...	51,55,000	53,47,068	55,51,652	56,00,000	65,00,000	61,00,000	Revised based on ten months' actuals.
Provincial share ...	25,78,000	26,73,534	27,75,826	28,00,000	32,50,000	30,50,000	

IX.—Forests—

Timber and other produce removed from the forests by Government agency ...	1,81,000	1,51,372	1,07,835	3,000	20,000	4,000	Increase in revised is due to sale of timber previously extracted in Buxa where departmental operation was given up.
Timber and other produce removed from the forests by consumers or purchasers ...	11,76,000	11,84,132	14,41,410	13,55,000	15,75,000	15,50,000	
Confiscated drift and waif wood	4,000	5,555	1,836	2,000	3,000	2,000	
Miscellaneous	43,000	46,406	49,520	40,000	52,000	44,000	Increase in revised is due to payment of fines in Tista for extension of timber agreements.
Total	14,04,000	13,87,465	16,00,601	14,00,000	16,50,000	16,00,000	Revised based on ten months' actuals.

A - *Registration*—

Fees for registering documents ..	15,03,000	16,02,137	16,83,575	17,70,000	18,20,000	18,95,000	Increase is for increased number of registrations.
Fees for copies of registered documents ..	54,000	56,826	63,164	60,000	70,000	73,000	
Miscellaneous	74,000	74,731	76,422	70,000	80,000	82,000	
Total ..	16,31,000	17,33,694	18,23,161	19,00,000	19,70,000	20,50,000	Revised based on nine months' actuals

XII.—*Interest*—

Class I.—Interest on advances to cultivators—							
On advances to cultivators under the Land Improvement Loans Act of 1883 ...		18,169	20,958	37,000	53,000	62,000	Increase in revised and budget is due to new loans for flooded areas.
On advances to cultivators under the Agriculturists' Loans Act, XXII of 1884 ...		63,367	36,169				
On loans to Co-operative Credit Societies		1,832	1,672	2,700	3,000	3,000	
Class II.—Interest on advances under Special Laws—	6,02,000						
On drainage and embankment advances		6,228	14,735	12,000	10,000	14,000	
Class III.—Interest on loans to landholders, etc.		2,15,464	1,97,580	1,90,000	1,94,000	1,74,000	The gradual decrease is on account of repayments of loans.
Class IV.—Interest on loans to municipal and other public corporations (excluding Presidency corporations)		1,88,285	2,00,145	2,16,000	2,06,000	2,20,000	Based on estimated outstanding mean balance of Loan Account.
Interest on Government securities ...	13,000	13,202	10,545	11,000	11,000	11,000	
Miscellaneous—							
Interest on arrears of Public Works Cess		14,959	13,361	15,000	3,000	3,500	Decrease due to the interest on arrears of Public Works Cess being surrendered to the District Boards.
Other items		410	5,001	500			
Interest on zamindari embankment recoveries, etc.		299	247	500		500	
Total Miscellaneous ...	16,000	15,668	18,609	16,000	3,000	3,000	
Rounding ...	..	... ..	... ..	+300	.	...	
GRAND TOTAL ...	6,31,000	5,22,295	5,90,713	4,85,000	4,80,000	4,87,000	

XVIA.—Law and Justice—Courts of Law—

Heads.	1910-11	1911-12.	1912-13.	1913-14.		1914-15.	Remarks.
	Actuals.	Actuals	Actuals.	Sanctioned estimate.	Revised estimate.	Budget estimate.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs	Rs	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Sale-proceeds of unclaimed and escheated property	23,000	26,152	28,892	25,000	33,000	30,000	
Court-fees realized in cash	51,000	56,187	64,124	57,000	70,000	74,000	
General fees, fines and forfeitures ..	6,29,000	6,07,679	6,55,040	6,15,000	7,00,000	7,25,000	Increase due to larger magisterial fines.
Pleadership Examination fees	39,000	37 990	32,385	38,000	30,000	32,000	
Miscellaneous fees and fines	23,000	5,971	5,855	5,000	7,000	6,000	
Miscellaneous		26,858	28,605	25,000	27,000	28,000	
Total .	7,65,000	7,60,777	8,14,901	7,65,000	8,67,000	8,95,000	Revised based on actuals of first nine months.

XVIB.—Jails—

Jails	19,000	9,287	1,356	9,000	1,000	1,000	
Jail manufactures	6,20,000	8,22,137	7,01,997	6,50,000	7,25,000	7,22,000	
Total ...	6,39,000	8,31,424	7,03,353	6,59,000	7,26,000	7,23,000	Revised based on actuals of first nine months. Budget follows revised.

XVII.—Police—

Cash receipts under the Arms Act ..		1,018	937	1,000	700	1,000	
Police supplied to public departments, private companies and persons		69,816	1,13,200	40,000	20,000	20,000	Decrease due to the abolition of additional police in the districts of Jessore and Khulna.
Presidency police		79,769	89,566	83,000	1,00,000	1,20,000	Increase due to larger receipts under the Motor Cycles Act.
Recoveries on account of village police .		308	383	300	300	300	Based on actuals.
Fees, fines and forfeitures		14,153	16,880	15,700	17,000	17,000	
Miscellaneous		22,811	18,176	12,000	18,000	19,000	
For rounding		.....	.....	.....	.....	—300	

Sale-proceeds of vessels and stores ...	.....	831	1,578	.....	...	.	
Registration and other fees { Calcutta .. / Chittagong ..	84,000	86,061 / 1,939	91,485 /	87,000 /	93,000 / ...	94,000	
Pilotage receipts, Calcutta	14,37,000	14,63,455	15,22,201	16,00,000	14,30,000	15,00,000	The receipts are decreasing steadily month by month in 1913-14. Budget provides for a small increase over 1913-14.
Lead-money for volunteers		12,545	11,472	13,000	10,000	12,000	
Miscellaneous	86,000	1,29,822	1,25,454	1,00,000	1,07,000	1,10,000	Actuals of 1911-12 and 1912-13 included special receipts of Rs. 27,000 and Rs. 20,000, respectively, on account of contribution made by the Government of India for the services of the *Guide* at Port Blair. This is not likely to be employed on similar duty in 1913-14 and 1914-15 and hence the decrease.
Total ...	16,07,000	16,95,556	17,52,195	18,00,000	16,40,000	17,18,000	Revised based on the actuals of the first nine months.

XIX.—*Education*—

Fees, Government Colleges—							
General	3,08,000	2,89,131	3,00,593	2,90,000	3,23,000	3,32,000	
Professional		46,074	49,713	48,000	56,000	56,000	
Fees, Government Schools—							
General	3,25,000	3,21,797	3,45,875	3,41,000	3,58,000	3,74,000	
Special		13,641	16,009	14,000	14,000	31,000	Budget includes fees of Madrassas in East Bengal which were hitherto credited to the Mohsin Fund.
Contributions from Native States, private persons and municipalities	8,000	5,126	14,667	9,900	6,000	12,000	
Income from endowments	.....	3,778	111	4,000	.	10	
Miscellaneous	37,000	53,701	51,708	44,100	58,000	57,000	
For rounding ..	.	. ...	.....	..	..	—100	
Total ...	6,78,000	7,33,248	7,77,676	7,51,000	8,15,000	8,62,000	Revised based on the actuals of the first nine months

XX.—*Medical*—

Medical School and College fees	65,000	73,305	86,743	88,000	97,000	96,000	Increase is due to the increased number of students.
Hospital receipts (receipts from paying patients)	1,68,000	1,61,887	1,55,637	1,64,000	1,55,000	1,53,000	Based on actuals
Lunatic Asylum receipts	22,000	25,081	26,108	23,400	27,000	28,000	
Contributions (from municipalities and private persons)	55,000	56,389	1,05,181	56,400	58,000	56,000	Actuals of 1912-13 included a special contribution of Rs. 50,000 from the Indian Research Fund for jungle-clearing in malarial districts.
Medicines sold by Civil Surgeons .	26,000	26,167	37,293	30,000	50,000	50,000	
Miscellaneous	31,000	20,167	16,871	14,200	15,000	14,000	
Total ...	3,67,000	3,62,976	4,26,733	3,76,000	4,00,000	3,97,000	Revised based on the actuals of the first nine months.

XXI.—Scientific and other Minor Departments—

Heads.	1910-11. Actuals.	1911-12. Actuals.	1912-13. Actuals	1913-14 Sanctioned estimate.	1913-14 Revised estimate.	1914-15. Budget estimate.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs	Rs.	
Botanical and other public garden receipts ..	4,000	2,311	3,871	2,000	3,000	2,900	
Veterinary and stallion receipts ...	37,000	33,771	33,258	30,000	32,000	33,000	
Cinchona plantation	2,06,000	1,26,653	99,509	1,07,000	2,00,000	1,50,000	Budget based on the average receipts of the last three years It is expected that in 1913-14 the requirements of quinine will be nearly double of that of 1912-13.
Agricultural receipts, including receipts on account of experimental cultivation ...	31,000	32,830	42,515	42,000	42,000	50,000	Budget includes receipts from the Rangpur Dairy Farm.
Public exhibitions and fairs ...	..	..	..	...	100	..	
Emigration fees	24,000	25,695	24,530	30,000	24,000	23,000	
Inland labour transport fees	14,000	10,454	8,3 6	10,000	8,000	9,000	
Examination fees	1,000	—28	25	100	300	100	
Miscellaneous	8,000	5,367	5,727	4,900	3,6 0	4,000	
Total ...	3,24,000	2,37,053	2,17,931	2,26,000	3,13,000	2,72,000	Revised based on the actuals of the first nine months.

XXII.—Receipts in aid of Superannuation—

Family subscriptions of Indian members of the Covenanted Civil Service	1,000	.....	...	.....	.. .	... .	There is now no Indian member.
Contributions for pensions and gratuities—							
Contributions of officers lent to foreign service of the first and second kind ...		26,779	26,451	22,000	18,500	19,000	
Contributions of persons employed for the management of private estates, under Act X of 1892		1,6 1	1,460	1,600	1,500	1,600	
Annuity deductions of Covenanted Civilians lent to Native States, etc., for short terms	23,000	2,432	4,663	4,000	3,000	3,300	
Refund of gratuities		60	72	100	..	100	
Deductions for Pilotage Pension Fund ...	12,000	12,286	15,564	14,300	15,000	15,000	
Total ...	36,000	43,158	48,210	42,000	38,000	[illegible],000	Revised based on the actuals of the first nine months.

XXIII.—Stationery and Printing—

Stationery receipts	3,000	2,535	2,799	3,000	2,000	2,000	Budget based on the actuals of 1912-13.
Sale of *Gazettes* and other publications ..	1,15,000	85,907	88,111	85,000	95,000	89,800	
Other Press receipts	22,000	41,983	29,193	42,000	28,000	28,200	
Total ...	1,40,000	1,30,425	1,20,103	1,30,000	1,25,000	1,20,000	

XXV.—Miscellaneous—

Percentage on capital furniture	...	30	...	.....	.....	... ..	
Recovery on account of famine expenditure ...	...	.....	.....	.....	... ..	.....	
Unclaimed deposits	3,63,000	5,22,775	6,38,026	4,80,000	5,35,000	4,80,000	This is an uncertain head. Revised based on the amount of deposits likely to lapse at the close of the year.
Treasure-trove		139	500	.....		.....	
Sale-proceeds of Durbar presents ...	10,000	12,435	7,225	7,000	7,000	7,000	
Sale of old stores and materials	19,000	11,350	1,727	8,000	8,000	3,000	Revised includes Rs 5,634 on account of sale of tents to the Private Secretary to the Lieutenant Governor of Bihar and Orissa from the Government House stock at Dacca.
Sale of lands and houses, etc.	1,35,000	201	2,742	3,000	15,000	2,000	Revised includes Rs. 11,540 on account of sale of Government land to the Railway at Chittagong.
Fees for Government audits	10,000	19,503	15,352	17,000	33,000	27,000	Revised includes Rs. 11,000 on account of fees due for audit of accounts for 1911-12 and previous years which was completed in 1912-13 and 1913-14
Rents	19,000	14,666	14,900	13,000	14,000	14,000	
Miscellaneous fees, fines and forfeitures ...	3,000	2,639	7,098	3,000	1,000	3,000	
Contributions	... ..	750	702	... ..	1,000	1,000	
Miscellaneous—							
Fees and fines of revenue courts ...		21,908	27,194	24,000	26,000	24,000	
Recoveries of law charges, other than those in pauper suits		12,104	40,791	13,000	13,000	12,000	
Value of mathematical stores returned ...		...	.....	.....	... ..	... ..	
Sundry receipts—Circuit-house ...		368	299	400	500	400	
Miscellaneous receipts on account of Public Works Cess, under Act IX (B C) of 1880		521	704	600	....	..	
Miscellaneous receipts on account of the management of Wards' estates ...		34	107	. ..	500	100	
Sale-proceeds of trees on tea lands ...		.....	.	.. ...	...	... ..	
Sale of elephants		.....	.. ..	.....	.. ..	. ..	
Other items		19,290	10,754	20,000	22,000	16,500	
Steamer receipts, Chittagong		6,660	4,177	7,000	2,000	2,000	
Total Miscellaneous ...	55,000	60,885	84,026	65,000	63,000	55,000	
GRAND TOTAL ...	6,14,000	6,35,371	7,72,339	5,91,000	6,78,000	5,92,000	Revised based on the actuals of the first nine months.

XXIX.—Major Works—(Direct Receipts)—

Midnapore Canal	2,08,000	2,15,470	2,20,782	2,27,000	2,03,000	2,13,500	Decrease in revised is under water-rates. An increase in the irrigated area expected next year.
High Tidal Canal	55,000	62,657	53,136	53,000	47,000	53,500	Decrease in revised is due to silting up of the canal which reduced the navigation receipts
Total ...	2,63,000	2,78,127	2,73,918	2,80,000	2,50,000	2,67,000	
Provincial share ...	2,63,000	1,39,063	1,36,959	1,40,000	1,25,000	1,33,000	

XXX.—Minor Works and Navigation—

Heads.	1910-11. Actuals.	1911-12. Actuals.	1912-13. Actuals	1913-14. Sanctioned estimate.	1913-14. Revised estimate.	1914-15. Budget estimate.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
In charge of the Civil Department.	Rs.	Rs	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Recoveries on account of lands benefited by embankments	55,000	51,031	19,850	51,000	50,000	50,000	This represents receipts in Midnapore under the contract system for the repairing of the zamindari embankments. Estimates based on the actual demands.
Provincial share ...	55,000	25,015	24,925	26,000	25,000	25,000	
In charge of the Public Works Department.							
(Irrigation and Navigation Works.)							
Works for which Capital and Revenue accounts are kept—							
Orissa coast canal ...			16,346	15,000	15,000	17,000	
Calcutta and Eastern Canals			4,21,908	4,50,000	3,70,000	3,75,000	Decrease in revised is on account of deficiency in the rice and jute crop.
Madaripur Bhil scheme ..			1,03,225	1,25,000	84,000	92,000	Decrease in revised is for falling off on account of concessions granted to passenger steamers.
Total ..			5,41,479	5,90,000	4,67,000	4,84,000	
Works for which only Revenue accounts are kept—							
Nadia rivers			28,986	28,100	28,250	25,100	
Gaighatta and Buxi *khals*			3,675	4,900	5,250	4,900	
Total ...			32,661	33,000	33,500	30,000	
Works for which neither Capital nor Revenue accounts are kept—							
Eden canal			36,531	34,000	37,000	37,000	
Total Irrigation and Navigation Works ...			6,10,671	6,57,000	5,37,500	5,51,000	

Works for which only Revenue accounts are kept—						
Magra Hát drainage project ...			2,480	4,000	4,500	34,000
Works for which neither Capital nor Revenue accounts are kept—						
Government embankments ... ... Takavi embankments under contract ...			27,059	24,000	24,000	25,000
Total Agricultural Works ...			29,539	28,000	28,500	59,000
Total in charge of the Public Works Department	5,53,000	6,73,000	6,40,210	6,85,000	5,66,000	6,10,000
Provincial share ..	5,53,000	3,56,000	3,20,105	3,42,000	2,83,000	3,05,000

XXXII—Civil Works—

IN CHARGE OF THE CIVIL DEPARTMENT.							
Tolls on ferries		1,43,603	1,33,829	1,44,200	1,33,500	1,33,000	
Cemetery receipts		1,122	1,191	1,300	500	1,400	
Receipts from staging bungalows and encamping grounds		7,159	8,906	5,000	6,000	5,000	
Miscellaneous		3,379	3,598	4,500	6,000	4,500	
For rounding ...		.....	.....	.....	...	+100	
Total in charge of the Civil Department	1,5[illegible],000	1,55,263	1,42,523	1,55,000	1,44,000	1,44,000	Revised based on the factuals of the first nine months. Budget follows revised.
IN CHARGE OF THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT							
Total gross receipts	3,71,000	4,62,000	3,86,036	3,69,000	4,14,000		Increase in revised is due to the sale of certain buildings.

APPENDIX B.

Bengal Provincial Expenditure, in detail of minor heads.

[Figures in columns 6 and 7 are those provisionally passed by the Government of India.]

[The remarks in column 8, except where otherwise specially explained, refer to difference between columns 5 and 7.]

1.—Refunds and Drawbacks—

Heads.	Actuals 1910-11.	Actuals 1911-12.	Actuals 1912-13.	1913-14. Sanctioned estimate.	1913-14. Revised estimate	1914-15. Budget estimate	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs	
Land Revenue	46,000	39,012	21,090	25,000	19,000	26,000	There were special payments of Rs. 22,500 in 1910-11 and Rs. 6,500 in 1911-12
Stamps	91,500	89,636	94,552	87,000	83,000	87,000	The actuals of 1912-13 include special payments of Rs 14,000.
Excise	5,500	4,510	13,604	10,000	13,000	10,000	The charges are wholly Provincial from 1912-13.
Assessed Taxes	6,500	8,194	8,366	7,000	18,000	8,000	Revised includes a special payment of Rs. 8,000
Forest	1,500	5,704	1,274	3,000	2,000	1,000	
Provincial Rates	5,000	1,692	747	4,000	.	...	
Registration	3,000	6,376	4,502	5,000	3,000	4,000	
Total ...	1,59,000	1,55,124	1,44,035	1,41,000	1,38,000	1,35,000	Revised based on the actuals of the first nine months Budget based on the average actuals of the past three years, omitting special payments

2.—Assignments and Compensations—

Land Revenue compensation	...	7,500	.....	6	.....	6	
Pension in lieu of resumed lands	1,000	854	927	1,000	1,000	1,000	
Malikana	34,000	29,293	49,978	32,000	44,000	42,000	This is a fluctuating head
Excise compensation	1,000	.....	.....	. .	...	.. ...	
For rounding	...	... .	.....	—6	.	—6	
Total ..	36,000	37,647	50,905	33,000	45,000	43,000	Revised based on the actuals of the first nine months Budget provides for actual claims.

3.—Land Revenue—

Charges for Administration—							
General Establishment . .		24,65,220	23,96,938	24,70,000	24,25,000	25,24,000	Decrease in revised is for savings under Salaries. Budget includes provision for additional Magistrate of the 24-Parganas, for revision of kanungo establishment, Rs. 40,000 for a launch for the Collector of Faridpur and Rs 10,000 for the purchase of iron safes for district and subdivisional treasuries

[illegible] ...		1,52,078	1,59,479	1,41,750	1,67,000	1,46,000	
Partition Establishment		—11,197	—23,624	—6,600	—24,000	—13,000	Revised provides for larger recoveries for partition work.
Record-room (or copy-making) Establishment		23,529	17,790	20,000	16,000	19,000	
Survey of waste-lands		1,587	8,136	2,000	2,000	2,000	
Management of Private Estates under Act X of 1892		26,864	22,729	23,000	23,000	24,000	
For rounding		.....	.....	—150	.....	.....	
Total ...	23,31,000	26,68,081	25,81,448	26,50,000	26,09,000	27,01,000	
Charges on account of Land Revenue collections	8,000	11,670	13,280	10,000	13,000	10,000	
Charges on account of Fishery collections ...	8,000	2,667	250	1,000	.....	.....	
Management of Government Estates—							
Collection of revenue		3,32,110	2,77,208	3,26,000	2,77,000	3,19,000	
Outlay on improvements		2,08,709	1,62,571	1,46,000	1,64,000	2,49,000	Budget includes Rs. 50,000 for addditional expenditure on improvements and Rs. 67,000 for the reclamation of Sunderbans in the district of Bakarganj.
Total ...	4,04,000	5,40,819	4,39,779	4,72,000	4,41,000	5,68,000	
Survey and Settlement—							
Controlling Office (survey)		3,591	—224	.....	.....	.....	
Other survey operations—							
Bengal Drawing Office		27,712	8,696	30,854	9,000	52,164	
Other operations		24,827	45,776	70,275	87,000	96,998	Revised includes Rs. 37,000 for the new Survey School at Comilla by transfer from Education. Budget includes for Rs. 42,755 the same and Rs. 10,000 for training class for kanungoes and others.
Minor settlement operations ...		59,287	49,545	20,000	.....	.....	
Other ditto		51,960	32,084	60,871	79,000	63,771	
For rounding	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	67	
Total ...	88,000	1,67,377	1,35,877	1,82,000	1,75,000	2,13,000	Budget based on actual requirements.
Land Records—							
Superintendence		80,618	41,985	1,000	1,000	11,000	Budget includes provision for the revision of the office of the Director of Land Records, while smaller reduction has been made as the share of cost chargeable to Imperial Settlements.
District charges		38,025	23,509	32,000	25,000	30,000	
Total ...	78,000	1,18,643	65,494	33,000	26,000	41,000	
GRAND TOTAL ...	29,17,000	35,09,257	32,36,128	33,48,000	32,64,000	35,33,000	Revised based on the actuals of the first nine months.

6.—*Stamps*—

Heads.	Actuals. 1910-11.	Actuals. 1911-12.	Actuals. 1912-13.	1913-14. Sanctioned estimate.	1913-14. Revised estimate.	1914-15. Budget estimate.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Superintendence—							
Presidency Executive Establishment ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
District Establishment	30,000	26,579	28,133	30,000	26,000	30,000	
Total ...	30,000	26,579	28,133	30,000	26,000	30,000	
Charges for the sale of general stamps—							
Discount on sale of bills-of-exchange or hundies		5,773	6,323	6,000	9,000	9,000	Revised based on the actuals of the first nine months. Budget follows the revised.
Discount on sale of other general stamps		1,80,510	2,03,659	1,99,000	2,26,000	2,26,000	
Total ...	1,79,000	1,86,283	2,09,982	2,05,000	2,35,000	2,35,000	
Charges on sale of court-fee stamps—							
Discount on sale of adhesive stamps ...		1,03,214	1,03,360	1,11,000	1,08,000	1,08,000	
Discount on sale of stamps for copies ...		9,124	6,117	9,000	8,500	8,500	
Establishment for sale of stamps ...		1,362	1,033	1,494	1,500	1,494	
For rounding		.....	.....	—494	.....	6	
Total ...	1,09,000	1,15,700	1,10,500	1,21,000	1,18,000	1,18,000	
Discount on plain paper	17,000	18,523	18,309	19,000	19,000	19,000	
Stamp paper supplied from Central Stores ...	2,73,000	2,99,928	3,40,446	3,50,000	3,29,000	3,50,000	The figures furnished by the Controller of Stamps and Stationery for both 1913-14 and 1914-15 adopted.
Grand Total ...	6,98,000	6,45,013	7,07,370	7,25,000	7,27,000	7,52,000	
Provincial share	3,04,000	3,22,507	3,53,685	3,62,000	3,63,000	3,76,000	

Superintendence	91,000	1,02,928	80,416	94,000	1,01,000	1,03,000	Increase is due to increase in grade pay of the Commissioner.
Presidency Establishment—							
Calcutta Collectorate (office)		41,866	48,494	47,856	47,000	45,888	
Inspection and Prevention		25,509	22,409	20,604	23,000	21,204	
Allowances and contingencies... ...		26,780	28,322	26,653	25,000	28,391	
For rounding			.....	—113		—483	
Total ...	84,000	94,155	99,225	95,000	95,000	95,000	
District Executive Establishment—							
Sadar Establishment		73,687	73,897	1,18,145	77,000	2,21,601	Decrease in revised is due to lapse of the lump provision for reorganisation. Budget includes Rs. 1,50,000 for the same.
Inspection and prevention		1,37,329	1,36,035	1,37,193	1,34,000	1,36,341	
Allowances, etc.		90,690	87,553	94,540	92,000	93,538	
Bonus		5,353	53	.....	.....	.....	
For rounding		.....	.....	+122	.....	4,51,480 —480	
Total ...	3,23,000	3,07,059	2,97,538	3,50,000	3,03,000	4,51,000	
Distilleries—							
Presidency Establishment	94,000	13,869	13,690	14,000	11,000	13,000	
District Establishment		1,12,735	1,06,788	1,16,000	1,19,000	2,15,000	Budget includes Rs 50,000 for the construction of residences and Rs. 50,000 for launches and boats.
Lump addition by Government ...		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Bonus		978	.....	.....	.....	.....	
GRAND TOTAL ...	5,92,000	6,31,724	5,97,657	6,69,000	6,29,000	8,77,000	
Provincial share	2,96,000	4,73,793	5,97,657	6,69,000	6,29,000	8,77,000	Revised based on the actuals of the first nine months.

8.—Provincial Rates—

Heads.	Actuals.			1913-14.		1914-15.	Remarks.
	1910-11.	1911-12.	1912-13.	Sanctioned estimate.	Revised estimate.	Budget estimate.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Collection of rates and cesses		80,436	62,050	65,000	62,000	63,000	
Valuation and re-valuation		91,859	84,320	1,27,000	1,50,000	1,15,000	Budget based on actual requirements.
Bonus		1,591	245	.....	.....		
Total ...		1,73,886	1,46,615	1,92,000	1,92,000	1,78,000	
Deduct—							
Proportion debitable to Local for cost of road-cess collection ...		1,18,019	1,07,406	1,92,000	1,92,000	1,78,000	
Proportion debitable to Local for revaluation							
One-third share of recoveries on account of collection of arrear cesses		566					
Contribution for pension of the Cess-collecting Establishment ...		5,514					
Total ...	44,000	49,787	39,209	.....	.....	.....	These charges will be incurred by the District Officers in the first instance and ultimately recovered from District Boards who are now getting the Public Works Cess, so that nothing will fall on Provincial Revenues.

10.—Assessed Taxes—

Calcutta Establishment		91,286	91,378	93,000	94,000	87,000	No provision has been made for the Income-tax Branch of the Board's establishment, as it has now been amalgamated with the Civil Secretariat.
District ditto		63,465	61,559	64,000	63,000	64,000	
Bonus		1,482	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Total ...	1,51,000	1,56,233	1,52,937	1,57,000	1,57,000	1,51,000	
Provincial share	75,000	78,116	76,469	78,000	78,000	75,000	

II.—Forests—

A.—Conservancy and Works.							
I.—Timber and other produce removed from the forests by Government agency		63,819	36,767	1,000	2,000	1,200	
II.—Timber and other produce removed from the forests by consumers and purchasers		1,02,281	1,12,100	1,07,000	1,14,000	1,32,650	Revised includes arrear adjustments of 1912-13. Budget includes provision for new boilers for launches *Hawk* and *Helen Grey* and construction of new boats to replace old ones for the Sunderbans Division.
III.—Confiscated drift and waif wood ...		2,406	1,370	1,000	1,000	1,200	
V.—Rent of leased forests, and payment to share-holders in forests managed by Government		25	1,096	1,100	1,000	1,500	
VI.—Live-stock, stores, tools and plant ...		44,227	18,192	29,500	18,000	32,500	Budget includes provision for the purchase of two elephants for Chittagong Hill Tracts Division.
VII.—Communications and buildings ...		71,739	1,14,704	96,700	1,18,000	1,31,900	Budget includes provision for the construction of Divisional bungalow at Kalimpong, Rest-houses at Gadadhar, Buxa and Chittagong Hill Tracts, Divisional Officer's quarters at Buxa-Duars and Inspection bungalows in Singalila Range, Darjeeling and at Satkania in Chittagong.
VIII.—Demarcation, improvement and extension of forests		34,590	44,545	59,500	48,000	71,950	Budget includes cost of settlement and compensation for lands and rights in Jalpaiguri, and provision for climber-cutting in Tista, Jalpaiguri and Buxa.
IX.—Miscellaneous		4,433	3,309	4,200	2,000	4,450	
For rounding		.....	.....	.....	.....	—350	
Total A.—Conservancy and Works ...	3,41,000	3,23,520	3,32,083	3,00,000	3,04,000	3,77,000	
B.—Establishment.							
I.—Salaries		2,86,252	2,49,895	2,92,000	2,55,000	2,64,000	Decrease due to savings under Salaries.
II.—Allowances		77,431	64,878	69,250	67,000	71,000	Budget includes provision for practical training allowances, as well as stipends for students at Debra Dun College.
III.—Contingencies		15,841	13,938	14,478	14,000	15,144	
For rounding		.....	.....	+272	.....	—144	
Total B.—Establishment	3,22,000	3,79,524	3,28,711	3,76,000	3,36,000	3,50,000	Revised based on the actuals of the first nine months.
Bonus	.....	3,174	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Total A and B ...	6,63,000	7,06,218	6,60,794	6,76,000	6,40,000	7,27,000	
Provincial share	3,31,000	7,06,218	6,60,794	6,76,000	6,40,000	7,27,000	

12.—Registration—

Heads.	Actuals. 1910-11.	Actuals. 1911-12.	Actuals. 1912-13.	1913-14. Sanctioned estimate.	1913-14. Revised estimate.	1914-15. Budget estimate.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Superintendence	65,000	81,370	70,135	68,000	71,000	75,000	Budget includes provision of Rs. 6,222 for re-grant of savings in the allotment for contract contingencies.
District Charges—							
Registrar of joint stock companies ...		.....	.....	... ..	.. ...	21,900	
Calcutta		29,367	30,756	32,500	31,000	28,000	Budget omits provision of the Sub-Registry office at Para Bazar, Calcutta.
District Sub-Registrars ... ... / Sub-Registrars		9,53,282	9,49,109	10,14,000	9,98,000	10,73,100	Decrease in revised is due to non-utilization of the provision for revision of District Sub-Registrars' establishment. Budget provides Rs. 8,100 for increase of salary of District Sub-Registrars, Rs. 10,000 for increase of leave reserve, Rs. 45,610 for revision of District Sub-Registry offices, Rs. 4,500 for revision of the cadre of Sub-Registrars, Rs. 1,800 for increase in the allowance from Rs. 20 to Rs 30 for probationers, Rs. 3,000 for the purchase of typewriters and Rs. 3,000 for cost of remitting salaries.
Ex-officio Sub-Registrars		3,387	903	1,500	1,000	1,000	
Total District Charges	9,63,000	9,86,036	9,80,768	10,48,000	10,30,000	11,24,000	Revised based on the actuals of the first nine months.
Grand Total ...	10,28,000	10,67,406	10,50,903	11,16,000	11,01,000	11,99,000	

13.—Interest on Ordinary Debt—

Interest on Provincial Advance and Loan Account	4,85,000	5,10,365	4,42,546	4,33,000	4,39,000	4,34,000	Both revised and budget are based on the estimated mean outstanding balances of loans.

10.—General Administration—

Salary of the Governor	1,44,000	1,40,791	1,29,096	1,20,000	1,20,000	1,20,000	
Staff and household of the Governor ...	1,30,000	1,55,692	4,22,279	2,95,000	2,75,000	3,28,000	Decrease in revised is due to savings in the grant for establishments as a portion of the charge was debited to the Civil Secretariat. Budget includes provision for special repairs to broad gauge Railway Saloon and for larger grant for contingencies of the Military Secretary and the Private Secretary to Governor. The actuals of 1912-13 include initial expenditure on furniture, band and horses, saddle, etc, of body-guard.
Tour and establishment grant	57,000	85,338	1,48,628	1,00,000	1,30,000	1,00,000	Increase in revised is for larger expenditure on tour charges.
Delhi Coronation Durbar	1,000	11,35,299	22,146	.....	.....	.....	
Tour expenses	8,000	11,128	... ..	.....	... ..	.....	
Legislative Department	1,15,000	1,10,472	1,03,961	1,15,000	1,46,000	1,28,000	Revised includes initial expenditure on books and furniture for the library of the Legislative Council, and larger expenditure on establishment Budget includes larger grant for the purchase of books and for allowances to reporters and for establishment.
Civil Secretariat	7,35,000	9,52,827	7,61,442	7,19,000	8,40,000	8,06,000	Increase is due to the creation of the fourth Secretary and transfer of a portion of the Board's establishment to the Civil Secretariat. Increase in revised is for officers on special duty as well as for the creation of the fourth Secretary and transfer of establishment charges.
Executive Council	53,000	1,85,600	2,15,680	2,12,000	2,27,000	2,15,000	Increase in revised is for heavier tour charges and contingencies.
Board of Revenue	4,38,000	3,88,450	2,47,992	2,34,000	2,11,000	1,44,000	Decrease due to the abolition of the post of second Secretary and transfer of assistants to the Civil Secretariat.
Commissioners	3,96,000	4,41,381	3,93,518	3,98,000	4,10,000	4,04,000	Increase in revised is for larger expenditure on salaries and on dockyard supplies.
Civil offices of Account and Audit ...	90,000	1,08,925	1,01,970	1,09,000	95,000	1,08,000	Decrease in revised is for savings under Salaries and Allowances.
Inspector-General of Stamps, Excise and Registration	7,000	19,119	.....	.....	... ..	.....	
Total ...	21,74,000	37,35,022	25,46,712	23,02,000	24,54,000	23,53,000	Revised based on the actuals of the first nine months.

XXA.—COURTS OF LAW—

Heads.	Actuals. 1910-11.	Actuals. 1911-12.	Actuals. 1912-13.	1913-14. Sanctioned estimate.	1913-14. Revised estimate.	1914-15 Budget estimate.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
High Court—							
Judges		7,67,667	9,19,575	9,44,000	9,48,000	9,90,000	Budget includes provision for a new Judge.
Original Side		3,20,130	3,19,711	3,43,000	3,36,000	3,38,000	Decrease in revised is for non-appointment of the Registrar of Insolvency. Budget includes provision for three shorthand writers recently sanctioned by the Government of India while the owners' share of taxes will now be paid by the Public Works Department and hence the decrease.
Appellate Side		3,24,135	3,94,438	3,53,000	4,03,000	4,35,000	Budget includes provision for the establishment of the new Judge and for the new Inspector of Judicial offices sanctioned by the Secretary of State and his establishment, as well as Rs. 10,000 for re-wiring the electric installation and Rs 2,000 for preserving memorial portraits
Copyists' Establishment		51,850	.....	45,000	.....	.....	Included under Appellate Side above.
Reporters		24,876	24,878	25,000	25,000	25,000	
Bonus		4,595	8	.....	.....	.....	
Total ...	14,28,000	14,93,253	16,58,610	17,10,000	17,12,000	17,88,000	
Law Officers—							
English Law Officers		1,31,378	1,29,837	1,33,000	1,20,000	1,33,000	
Legal Remembrancer and High Court Pleaders		8,91,946	5,89,666	3,05,000	4,12,000	3,82,000	Revised includes provision for fees to Counsel in Damuder Diara case. Budget includes large provision for fees to Counsel with reference to past actuals.
Mufassal Establishment		3,96,536	2,60,137	2,78,000	4,02,000	2,91,000	Revised includes provision for fees to Counsel in Barisal conspiracy case.
Bonus		273	−84	.....	.....	.....	
Total ...	14,53,000	14,20,123	9,79,556	7,16,000	9,34,000	8,06,000	
Coroner's Court	8,000	7,795	7,307	8,000	8,000	8,000	
Presidency Magistrates—							
Calcutta Police Court	1,53,000	1,24,218	1,13,731	1,28,000	1,27,000	1,38,000	Budget includes provision for additional establishment for the separation of the Magistrates' Courts.
Municipal Magistrate's Court		10,517	7,974	8,000	8,000	8,000	
Court for juvenile offenders and house of detention	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	18,000	Includes Rs. 9,400 for recurring charges and Rs. 8,000 for non-recurring and initial expenditure.
Bonus	.....	647	8	.....	.....	.....	

Courts of Law—concluded.

Civil and Sessions Courts—							
District and Sessions Judges		10,86,951	10,74,868	10,77,888	10,84,000	11,11,000	
Subordinate Judges		4,52,513	4,41,166	4,47,150	4,79,000	5,17,086	Increase in both revised and budget is due to revision of Subordinate Judicial Service sanctioned by the Secretary of State.
Mufassal Small Cause Courts ...		24,683	17,756	17,736	18,000	16,728	
Munsifs		15,96,143	15,48,738	15,74,392	16,24,000	15,90,000	Ditto ditto ditto.
Allowances		55,917	43,461	36,282	53,000	35,440	Revised includes the charges for grain allowance provided for in the Miscellaneous Budget.
Supplies and Services		4,60,608	4,55,719	4,68,000	4,58,000	5,06,424	Provision made for larger grants for remuneration to copyists.
Contingencies		1,49,877	1,64,614	1,67,988	1,80,000	1,62,070	
Process-serving Establishment ...		7,63,373	7,30,720	8,16,943	7,71,000	7,74,864	
Bonus		57,537	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Deduct—Probable savings... ...		.....	.....	−6,379	.....	+328	
Total ...	43,20,000	46,47,602	44,76,043	46,00,000	46,67,000	47,14,000	
Presidency Court of Small Causes ...	1,71,000	1,65,836	1,61,324	1,84,000	1,84,000	1,96,000	
Criminal Courts—							
General Establishment	20,05,000	20,33,495	19,82,411	20,06,000	20,37,000	20,66,000	Budget includes larger grant for travelling allowances, supplies and services and contingencies.
Subdivisional Establishment		1,62,079	1,59,479	1,41,750	1,67,000	1,45,000	
Revision of chowkidari panchayets ...		2,956	2,356	27,000	27,000	52,000	Budget includes Rs. 40,000 for Additional Sub-Deputy Collectors as Circle officers, sanctioned by the Secretary of State.
Police Case Hospitals	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5,000	This is for Police Case Hospitals in Alipore and Barrackpore.
For rounding	.....	.....	.....	+250	.....	.....	
Total ...	20,05,000	21,98,530	21,44,246	21,75,000	22,31,000	22,68,000	
Pleadership Examination charges ..	15,000	17,231	16,979	18,000	18,000	20,000	
Refunds	64,000	58,958	67,623	63,000	64,000	64,000	
Lump deduction	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	−70,000	
Total ...	96,17,000	1,01,44,720	96,39,400	96,10,000	99,53,000	99,53,000	Revised based on the actuals of the first nine months.

19 B—Jails—

Heads.	Actuals.			1913-14.		1914-15.	Remarks.
	1910-11.	1911-12.	1912-13.	Sanctioned estimate.	Revised estimate.	Budget estimate.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Superintendence		86,422	65,797	61,000	60,000	59,000	Decrease due to appointment of Personal Assistant on minimum pay.
Establishments—							
Superintendents and Jailors ..		2,05,954	2,03,542	2,06,200	2,02,000	2,07,000	
Medical		31,406	29,910	35,500	35,500	33,000	
Clerical, Educational and Mechanical .		12,206	10,770	19,000	12,500	12,000	
Warder		2,13,079	2,03,397	2,10,000	2,15,500	2,50,000	Budget includes Rs. 40,000 for the revision of warders service.
Menial and other		2,671	3,669	1,000	2,500	1,000	
Dietary charges		3,96,443	4,77,981	4,17,500	5,67,000	5,00,000	Increase is due to the increase in the price of food-grains.
Hospital charges		66,767	71,676	60,900	63,000	62,000	
Clothing and bedding of prisoners ...		63,138	54,479	68,000	54,000	66,000	
Sanitation charges		24,713	22,879	27,000	24,000	24,000	
Charges for moving prisoners		29,492	35,943	37,000	38,000	42,000	Budget based on actual requirements.
Miscellaneous services and supplies ..		1,12,921	1,01,286	1,23,500	1,10,000	1,18,000	
Allowances		16,834	12,680	11,000	15,000	11,000	
Contingent charges		64,618	82,951	90,000	94,000	57,000	
Extraordinary charges for live-stock, tools and plant		20,902	18,122	22,800	22,000	22,000	
Charges for police custody		20,573	18,235	22,000	17,000	20,000	
Bonus		8,888	—123	.....	.....	.....	
Charges for the distribution of quinine by the Juvenile Jail		...	4,207	5,000	5,000	5,000	
For rounding		.....	.....	—400	.....	.....	
Total Jails ...	15,19,000	13,77,957	14,17,401	14,17,000	15,37,000	14,89,000	
Jail manufactures	5,51,000	6,68,208	5,14,013	6,61,000	7,39,000	5,86,000	Increase in revised is for larger purchase of raw materials chiefly for the Presidency Jail at Alipore. Smaller provision has been made in budget for raw materials and contingencies of the manufacturing department on the basis of actual requirements.
Refunds	.....	5,167	418	1,000	.....	500	
For rounding	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	+500	
Total ...	20,70,000	20,51,332	19,61,832	20,79,000	22,76,000	20,76,000	

Presidency Police—							
Police Commissioner (Superintendence) ...		1,47,741	1,38,337	1,47,000	1,53,000	1,52,000	Budget includes provision for increased conveyance allowance of Deputy Commissioners sanctioned by the Government of India.
Calcutta Police		11,71,977	12,15,083	13,86,300	13,42,000	13,55,206	Decrease in revised is for abolition of an appointment of Superintendent and for savings in the grant for Police force. Budget includes provision for additional Police force for Criminal Investigation Department and Special Branch, Calcutta, and additional Police staff in connection with the scheme for the decentralization of the Police Court at Lal Bazar.
Hospital charges		23,171	32,258	32,000	35,000	38,856	Budget includes increased grant for diet due to increased rate sanctioned.
Special Police		38,739	35,522	37,000	40,000	39,000	
Cattle pounds		2,322	2,887	2,500	3,000	2,938	
River Police		26,597	20,674	23,000	23,000	28,000	Budget includes provision for additional police staff to regulate traffic at landing stages of Port Commissioners' Ferry service and provision for a new steam cutter and crew.
Police dead-house		1,673	2,093	2,600	3,000	2,700	
Bonus		23,680	2,266	.....	.....	.....	
Lump provision		.....	.....	23,600	16,000	1,04,465	Decrease in the revised is for non utilization of the full grant for raising the reserve to its authorized strength. Budget is made up of Rs. 65,000 for raising the reserve to its authorized strength, Rs. 33,455 for the Calcutta Police Training School and Rs. 6,000 for additional Police force to guard the Government Dockyard, Kidderpore.
For rounding		.....	.....	.....	.....	—155	
Total ...	13,23,000	14,35,900	14,49,110	16,60,000	16,15,000	17,23,000	
Superintendence	2,56,000	3,01,982	2,22,171	2,25,000	2,69,000	2,62,000	Increase in revised is for officers on special duty and larger expenditure under contingencies. Budget includes Rs. 6,000 for the revision of the office establishment of the Inspector-General of Police and Rs. 25,600 for the appointment of a fourth Range Deputy Inspector-General of Police.

20.—*Police*—continued.

Heads.	Actuals. 1910-11.	Actuals. 1911-12	Actuals. 1912-13.	1913-14. Sanctioned estimate.	1913-14. Revised estimate.	1914-15. Budget estimate.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
District Police Force—	Rs	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Salaries		5,39,798	5,58,525	5,40,000	5,80,000	5,50,000	In the budget for 1913-14 larger deduction was made for probable savings which was not realized
Police Force		29,43,647	30,60,900	31,50,000	32,43,000	34,00,000	Increase is due to additional appointments sanctioned during the year
Training Schools		1,01,839	1,23,111	1,19,000	1,38,000	1,62,000	Increase is due to additional staff for the schools at Rampur Boalia, Berhampore and Dacca.
Establishment		1,92,899	1,99,662	2,02,000	2,12,000	2,02,000	
Hospital charges		41,087	46,293	45,000	48,000	49,000	
Allowances		5,63,671	5,80,465	5,00,000	5,95,000	5,40,000	Increase in revised is for the debit of the charges for grain allowance to this head by transfer from Miscellaneous. Increase in budget is due to increased provision for local allowances of constables drawing minimum pay in the Eastern Bengal districts and for travelling allowances with reference to actuals.
Supplies and Services		6,15,154	6,42,299	6,72,000	6,76,000	7,13,000	Budget includes larger provision for escort charges, ordnance stores, cost of telephone lines and clothing and also provision for the purchase of a new boat for the Superintendent of Police, Noakhali.
Contingencies		2,35,101	2,41,040	2,76,000	2,76,000	2,62,000	
Other Police		3,17,347	2,94,402	7,01,000	5,04,000	7,50,000	Budget includes Rs 5,22,000 for the re-organization of the River Police in the Eastern Bengal districts against Rs. 4,50,000 in 1913-14. Decrease in revised is for non-utilization of the full provision for re-organization.
Bonus		93,192	—438	.....	.. ...	.....	
Lump provision of additional force and Police reforms		.. ...	.....	5,17,508	2,02,000	14,46,000	Decrease in revised is due to the debit to appropriate heads Budget includes the following items :— Reorganization of the Subordinate Police of the Eastern Bengal districts— Rs. Recurring ... ... 91,470 Non-recurring ... ... 3,13,385 Revision of Superior Police cadre ... 33,600 Extra cost in connection with the division of the East Indian Railway jurisdiction between Bengal and Bihar ... ... 6,278 Pilot engine during His Excellency's tour ... 4,000

For rounding ...		.....	.....	−508	.....	.....	
Total ..	52,97,000	56,43,735	56,96,249	67,22,000	64,74,000	80,74,000	
Village Police	26,000	24,586	19,874	23,000	16,000	30,000	Budget includes larger provision for rewards to panchayats for good work.
Criminal Investigation Department ...	5,94,000	6,23,503	4,06,163	3,83,000	4,30,000	4,95,000	Budget includes provision for additional temporary force sanctioned for the Intelligence Branch and for larger grant for travelling allowances
Special Police—							
Assam Frontier Police		184	291	.....	.....	...	
Bengal Military Police		2,94,717	2,51,826	1,97,000	2,14,000	1,87,000	
Frontier Police, Chittagong		45,009	42,841	48,000	44,000	48,600	
Upper Burma Police charges		6,125	6,032	6,000	6,000	6,400	
Bonus		3,994	63	.....	.....	.....	
Total ..	3,43,000	3,50,059	3,01,053	2,51,000	2,64,000	2,42,000	
Railway Police—							
Jorhat State Railway Police		.....	1,557	.....	1,500	.....	
Debru-Sadiya Railway Police		1,951	2,537	.....	2,500	.....	
Dacca-Mymensingh Railway Police ...		1,954	3,599	.....	4,000	.....	
East Indian Railway Police		84,922	79,901	1,06,000	85,000	1,09,000	Budget includes additional staff for police-stations at Jhajha and Ondal.
Eastern System Railway Police ...		1,84,258	1,73,258	2,10,000	2,03,000	2,10,000	
Bengal and North-Western and Tirhut State Railway Police		6,849	32	.....	21,000	.....	

Increase of pay of head-constables and constables	4,75,000
Increase of pay of dafadars	18,314
Introduction of station boat system in Bakarganj	2,808
Launch for Deputy Inspector-General, Dacca ...	18,135
Do. for Assistant Superintendent of Police, Munshiganj	38,938
Alterations to Warden	8,090
Settling of *Karwal nuts* of the Rajshahi Division under the Criminal Tribes Act—	
Non-recurring	23,000
Recurring	3,600
Strengthening of Armed Police Reserve ...	13,934
Armed posts at Madaripur	12,168
Increase of pay of Sergeants	9,000
Increase of cadre of Deputy Superintendents ..	17,100
Strengthening of head-quarters Treasury guard	6,386
Armed posts in the Dacca Division ...	27,720
Raising of the conveyance allowance of Subordinate Police officers	42,900
Strengthening of the Armed Reserve in Western Bengal	20,220
Reorganization of Military Police	79,197
Establishment of new police-stations in Asansol	23,144
Supply of mosquito nets	17,600
Purchase of iron cots	10,000
Station boat scheme	12,878

20.—Police—concluded.

Heads	Actuals. 1910-11.	Actuals. 1911-12.	Actuals. 1912-13.	1913-14 Sanctioned estimate.	1913-14 Revised estimate.	1914-15. Budget estimate.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Bengal-Nagpur Railway		25,059	22,516	.....	.....	.....	
Assam Bengal Railway Police ...		19,411	18,557	.....	19,000	.....	
Bonus		2,777	21	.....	.....	.....	
Total ...	3,10,000	3,27,181	3,01,972	3,16,000	3,36,000	3,19,000	
Cattle-pounds	1,000	291	134	300	200	250	
Refunds	4,000	1,174	3,133	1,700	3,800	2,750	
Lump deduction	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	—2,50,000	
Grand Total ...	81,54,000	87,08,211	83,99,859	95,82,000	94,08,000	1,08,98,000	Revised based on the actuals of the first nine months.

21.—Ports and Pilotage—

Salaries and allowances of officers and men afloat	1,09,000	1,06,186	1,24,693	1,17,000	1,16,000	1,18,000	
Victualling of officers and men afloat ...	37,000	33,546	27,771	30,000	32,000	32,000	Increase is for mess allowances of officers of *Fraser* and *Lady Fraser*.
Purchase of marine stores and coal for the building, repairs and outfit of ships and vessels	2,01,000	1,24,485	1,22,569	1,50,000	1,50,000	1,40,000	Budget based on actual requirements.
Purchase and hire of ships and vessels ...	9,000	8,711	16,850	25,000	25,000	20,000	This represents the cost of towing the State-yacht *Rhotas* during His Excellency's river tours.
Pilotage and Pilot establishment ...	7,74,000	8,30,619	8,18,545	8,70,000	7,76,000	8,20,000	Decrease in revised follow the decline in pilotage receipts. Increase in budget due to anticipated trade activity and consequent increased charges.
Marine establishment	87,000	1,75,258	53,763	1,30,000	1,34,000	1,33,000	Increase is for increased charges of overtime fees.
Subsidies to Steam-boat Companies ...	13,000	7,823	8,424	3,900	7,000	7,300	Includes annual subsidy of Rs. 3,000 to the Rivers Steam Navigation Company and quarterly subsidy of Rs. 80 to the India General Steam Navigation Company.
Miscellaneous	34,000	23,500	29,329	31,000	1,81,000	2,53,000	Both revised and budget include the payment of Rs. 1,50,000 to the Chittagong Port Fund.
State-yacht establishment	20,000	14,273	9,906	13,700	10,000	12,000	Estimate based on probable requirements.
Refunds	3,000	3,524	4,089	3,600	5,000	4,000	
Lump deduction	...	.....	.....	—300	.....	—300	
To ...	12,87,000	13,27,925	12,16,000	13,74,000	14,96,000	15,34,000	Revised based on the actuals of the first nine months.

Calcutta University	96,000	66,028	5,15,000	53,500 65,000	1,18,500	1,20,000	The actuals of 1912-13 included a special Imperial non-recurring grant of 4 lakhs.
Direction	1,12,000	2,17,189	1,78,080	1,40,000	1,44,000	1,67,000	Budget includes provision for 3 Assistant Directors, including Officer for Muhammadan education, and reorganisation of the office establishment of the Director of Public Instruction, and larger grant for travelling allowance and contingencies required for the Assistant Director of Public Instruction for Muhammadan Education.
Inspection— Inspectors of European Schools ... Inspectors of other schools		22,789 7,58,883	18,167 7,38,617	12,000 7,70,000	11,500 7,37,000	12,000 7,45,000	Decrease due to provision being made for the payment of owner's share of taxes on Government buildings by the Public Works Department, and also for larger probable savings with reference to actuals.
Inspector of hostels and students' messes ...		13	.....	3,700	4,000	4,000	
Inspector of technical schools and of industries		16,076	25,769	26,300	26,500	28,000	
Bonus		6,719	110	...			
Total ...	7,31,000	8,04,480	7,82,598	8,12,000	7,79,000	7,89,000	
Government Colleges, General— English Colleges— Arts Colleges for boys		7,08,557	7,45,673	7,17,000	7,47,000	7,86,000	Budget includes provision for a whole-time Professor of Geology and a Professor of Botany for Presidency College and other additional Professors for Hooghly, Dacca and Rajshahi Colleges, and personal allowances of certain professors and heads of Colleges and larger grant for Scientific Research.
Ditto for girls		31,814	30,655	33,000	33,000	34,000	Increase is for larger grant for boarding charges.
Eden Hindu Hostel		33,683	30,391	35,000	32,000	30,000	Decrease is due to the exclusion of the owner's share of taxes of hostel building.
Oriental Colleges— Sanskrit College		32,384	33,425	32,000	32,000	31,000	Ditto ditto of the college buildings.
Elliott Madrassah and other attached hostels		9,922	10,065	12,726	12,000	12,762	
Cost of maintaining messes attached to Government Colleges in Calcutta ..		...	.....	5,940	... ..	5,808	
Lump provision for Collegiate education in Eastern Bengal		... ...	.....	40,000	... ..	... .	Transferred to grants-in-aid.
Bonus		1,616	.. ...	.. ...	.....	.....	
Deduct—Probable savings ...		.....	.....	—666	.....	—570	
Total ..	6,95,000	8,17,976	8,50,209	8,75,000	8,56,000	8,99,000	

22.—*Education*— continued.

Heads.	Actuals.			1913-14.		1914-15.	Remarks.
	1910-11.	1911-12.	1912-13.	Sanctioned estimate.	Revised estimate.	Budget estimate.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Government Colleges, Professional—							
Law Colleges		13,250	15,185	17,500	15,000	15,000	Reduced with reference to actual requirements
Civil Engineering College, Sibpur, Howrah		2,59,935	3,20,920	2,80,000	3,08,000	2,79,000	
Mining Instructor in the coal-fields ...		.....	5,658	4,000	4,000	4,000	
Training Colleges for teachers ...		61,302	68,812	91,000	71,000	74,000	Special provision for cost of arrangement required to be made in place of Officers deputed to college omitted, while provision has been made for nature study class started in the Dacca Training College.
Bonus		641	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Total ...	3,17,000	3,35,128	4,00,575	3,92,500	3,98,000	3,72,000	
Government Schools, General—							
District School Committees		345	306	450	400	400	
Secondary Schools—							
For Boys—							
High Schools		4,99,044	5,00,867	5,21,000	5,02,000	5,01,000	Budget based on actuals. Larger provision was made in 1913-14 for allowances to Superintendents of Hostels, and for purchase of furniture not fully utilized.
Middle English Schools		95,554	88,940	1,01,000	1,05,000	1,19,000	Increase in budget is for enhanced boarding charges of the Victoria Boys' School, Kurseong
Middle Vernacular Schools		4,620	3,169	4,600	3,000	2,600	Budget for 1913-14 included staff for a new school for the Chittagong Hill Tracts not started.
For Girls—							
High Schools		85,820	80,594	92,000	91,000	96,000	Provision made for extra teachers and other requirements for Mymensingh and Chittagong Girls' Schools.
Middle English Schools		60,077	59,426	75,000	53,000	79,000	Provision made for Dow Hill School and Faizunnissa Girls' School, Comilla, and additional boarding charges.
Middle Vernacular Schools		5,324	7,713	2,500	6,000	3,000	
Primary Schools—							
For Boys—							
Upper Primary Schools		2,840	4,221	.....	.....	.....	Transferred to Lower Primary Schools.
Lower Primary Schools		.....	.....	4,000	1,000	3,000	Reduced with reference to actual requirements.
For Girls—							
Upper Primary Schools		2,538	23,036	6,600	4,000	6,700	
Lower " "		19,284	.....	18,000	18,000	19,000	

Payment in support of local schools under District Boards		5,99,991	11,61,506	6,50,000	14,29,000	2,88,560	Decrease due to the stoppage of the equilibrium grant on the surrender of the Public Works Cess to the District Boards. Revised includes amounts sanctioned from the Imperial non-recurring grants.
Bonus		9,532	—288	.....	.....	.....	
Training of gymnastic masters		.....	.....	5,000	.....	.....	Omitted as there are no actuals.
Provision for the opening of B and C classes in certain High Schools		.....	.....	7,000	.....	.....	Omitted as there are no actuals.
Zenana classes in Eastern Bengal ...		8,004	8,813	12,910	10,000	12,000	
For rounding		.....	.....	—60	.....	+140	
Total ...	12,84,000	14,38,548	19,81,325	15,47,000	22,56,000	11,73,000	
Government Schools, Special—							
Training Schools—							
For Masters—							
Normal Schools		75,237	87,136	94,000	83,000	85,000	Decrease for smaller provision of stipends to pupil-teachers.
Guru-training Schools		2,13,361	2,14,067	2,79,000	2,40,000	2,53,000	Decrease due to smaller expenditure on stipends.
For Mistresses—							
Training School attached to the Kurseong Boarding School		19,009	23,474	16,000	19,000	26,000	Increase for transfer of charges for stipends to pupil-teachers formerly shown under Normal Schools and increased boarding charges.
Training Schools for females at Calcutta		.....	.....	13,832	.....	14,987	Budget includes larger grant for contingencies.
Schools of Art—							
Calcutta School of Art		39,955	26,830	44,000	29,000	41,000	Revised reduced with reference to actuals of the first eight months. Smaller provision has been made for cost of preparation of artisan edition of Pattern Book.
Contribution to District Boards for special schools in Eastern Bengal		.....	.....	3,976	.....	.....	
Government Art Gallery		10,846	9,840	8,800	10,000	8,900	
Engineering and Survey Schools ...		66,474	83,123	1,21,000	66,000	60,000	Decrease in revised is due to the transfer of charges for Survey School at Comilla to the Survey and Settlement Department under Land Revenue, and also to the abolition of the electric power-house of the Dacca Engineering School. Budget follows revised and is based on actual requirements.
Technical and Industrial Schools ...		49,096	54,530	72,000	54,000	67,500	Revised follows the actuals of 1912-13. No provision has been made in the budget for 1914-15 for the provincialization of Technical Schools.
Commercial Schools		19,675	24,370	29,600	26,000	30,000	
Madrassahs		74,168	73,520	61,400	72,500	93,000	Budget includes a special additional provision for the maintenance of Madrassahs hitherto debited to the Mohsin Fund which will now be charged here, as the receipts from fees will be credited to Provincial.

22.—*Education*—concluded.

Heads.	Actuals.			1913-14.		1914-15.	Remarks.
	1910-11.	1911-12.	1912-13	Sanctioned estimate.	Revised estimate.	Budget estimate.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	R	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Reformatory School		2,520	—20	2,500	.....	.....	
Other miscellaneous schools		722	1,379	5,800	1,500	5,800	
Agricultural classes and agricultural gardens		2,269	.....	2,500	.....	2,500	
Bonus		2,288	114	.. ...	.....	.....	
Contribution for Mohsin Fund for Madrassahs in Eastern Bengal		... ..	.....	18,000	.....	.....	Included under Madrassahs.
Deduct—Probable savings		.....	.....	—408	.....	+313	
Total ...	5,76,000	5,75,620	5,98,433	7,72,000	6,01,000	6,88,000	
Grants-in-aid	11,81,000	14,28,094	17,24,524	14,20,000	22,80,000	15,08,000	Increase in revised is due to transfers from provisions for Imperial grants, from the allotments for petty grants by His Excellency, by the Divisional Commissioners and District Magistrates, and for additional grants for female education and C. M. S. College, sanctioned by the Government of India.
Scholarships	1,91,000	2,19,049	2,24,400	2,34,000	2,41,000	2,44,000	
Miscellaneous	1,18,000	2,17,397	1,20,518	1,65,000	7,37,000	1,40,000	Revised includes 6 lakhs for the purchase of a fish market at College Street, Calcutta.
Lump provision for improving popular education	.....	.....	... ..	12,57,000	97,000	11,72,000	The charges for 1913-14 are chiefly debited to the Public Works Department and partly under Grants-in-aid.
Lump provision for secondary education ..	.....	.....	.....	1,96,000	.....	1,28,000	The charges for 1913-14 are adjusted under Grants-in-aid.
Lump provision for female education (recurring)	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	30,000	
Lump provision for hostel buildings outside Calcutta and Dacca	.....	.. ...	.. . .	2,40,000	.....	2,17,000	The charges for 1913-14 are chiefly debited to the Public Works Department and partly under Grants-in-aid.
Hostel buildings in Calcutta	.....	.. ...	. ...	8,50,000	.....	8,70,000	
Dacca University and hostels (non-recurring)	.....	.....	.....	3,00,000	.....	3,00,000	
Ditto, ditto (recurring) ...	... ..	.....	... ..	... ..	.....	45,000	
Lump provision for non-recurring expenditure	.....	.....	.. ...	7,46,000	.. ...	5,11,000	The charges for 1913-14 are chiefly adjusted under Public Works Department and partly under Grants-in-aid.
Expenditure from the non-recurring grant of 75 lakhs	.....	.....	... ..	24,80,000	.. ...	30,00,000	
Expenditure from the recurring grant ...	.....	.....	. ...	13,20,000	.. ...	25,20,000	
Further recurring expenditure sanctioned by the Government of India	.....	.....	... ..	.. ...	.....	1,50,000	This has been recently sanctioned by the Government of India.
Refunds	3,000	2,454	1,097	2,500	2,500	2,000	
				1,38,66,500			
Lump deduction for probable savings ...	... ..	.....	.....	3,78,500	...	—5,00,000	
Total ..	53,34,000	61 21 873	73,76,829	1,34,88,000	85,10,000	1,45,43,000	Revised based on the actuals of the first nine months.

Medical establishment—							
Superintendence ...		87,698	71,388	77,000	66,000	81,000	Decrease in revised is for non-appointment of an Indian Medical Service officer as Personal Assistant as well as for savings in the salary of the Inspector-General on leave. Budget provides for the salary of Indian Medical Service Personal Assistant.
District Medical establishment ...		4,16,681	4,32,112	4,42,000	4,22,000	4,46,000	Decrease in revised is for savings under Salaries and Contingencies. Budget includes a lump provision for the revision of establishment of the Civil Surgeon's offices.
Reserve Medical Officers and Subordinates		19,190	9,600	15,000	12,000	15,000	
Bonus		1,660	9	...	.....	.....	
Total ...	4,95,000	5,25,129	5,13,109	5,34,000	5,00,000	5,42,000	
Hospitals and Dispensaries—							
Presidency Hospitals and Dispensaries—							
Medical College Hospital		3,34,259	3,64,393	3,29,000	3,69,000	3,62,000	Increase in revised is for teaching allowances to Resident Surgeons sanctioned by the Secretary of State and for additional charges for establishment, allowances and Supplies and Services. Budget includes larger provision for Medical Stores and European Stores
General Hospital		2,44,773	2,43,527	2,50,000	2,44,000	2,52,000	Budget includes Rs. 2,000 for increase of staff allowances of Military Assistant Surgeons. Decrease in revised is under Supplies and Services.
Campbell Hospital		1,24,401	1,25,706	1,35,000	1,37,000	1,43,000	Increase in revised is for increase of diet allowances of nurses and under Supplies and Services. Budget includes larger provision for salaries for increase in the number of Sub-Assistant Surgeons and increased grant for allowances and Medical Stores.
Albert Victor Asylum for Lepers ...		33,278	37,707	37,000	38,000	37,000	
Mufassal Hospitals and Dispensaries ...		69,290	1,08,402	84,000	1,05,000	91,000	Increase in revised is under Salaries and Contingencies. Budget provides for smaller recoveries from District Boards and Municipalities for pay of Assistant and Sub-Assistant Surgeons.
Grants to Hospitals and Dispensaries ...		2,34,456	2,12,209	1,18,000	2,74,000	1,56,000	Increase in revised due to a grant of Rs. 60,000 for Mymensingh Hospital, Rs. 8,000 to the General Hospital, Howrah, and grants to other hospitals. Budget includes provision for grant to Jubilee Sanitarium and Rs. 25,000 for the improvement of nursing arrangements in mufassal hospitals.
Medical charges in connection with the Inland Labour Transport Fund ...		1,733	1,279	1,500	1,000	1,800	
Bonus		5,223	—16	...	...	.....	
Total ...	9,80,000	10,47,413	10,93,207	9,54,500	11,68,000	10,42,300	
Sanitation and Vaccination	3,35,000	4,31,025	3,60,086	5,08,000	3,20,000	3,92,000	Decrease in revised is due to the lapse of provision for the purchase of quinine and anti-malarial measures. Budget provides Rs 50,000 for jungle-clearing.
Grants for medical purposes—							
Expenses during the prevalence of plague		13,323	13,844	4,360	14,000	14,000	
Contribution to Lady Minto's Nursing Association		3,554	.....	.....	.....	.....	This charge is shown in the Miscellaneous Budget.
Expenses during the prevalence of epidemics		3,352	1,249	4,000	2,000	2,000	

24.—Medical—concluded.

Heads.	Actuals. 1910-11.	Actuals. 1911-12.	Actuals. 1912-13.	1913-14. Sanctioned estimate.	1913-14. Revised estimate.	1914-15. Budget estimate.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Value of Medical Stores supplied to charitable institutions		795	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	
Bonus		26	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Exchange compensation allowance ...		.....	84	.....	.....	.....	
For rounding		.....	.....	—350	.....	.....	
Total grants for Medical purposes ...	27,000	21,049	16,177	9,000	17,000	17,000	
Medical Schools and Colleges—							
Medical Colleges		2,49,881	2,97,843	3,33,000	3,50,000	3,38,000	Increase in revised is for larger expenditure on Serological tests. Larger provision has been made for the same purpose in the budget for 1914-15.
Medical Schools		1,03,900	1,13,503	1,23,000	1,18,000	1,28,000	
Bonus		695	....	.....	.....	.....	
Total ...	3,68,000	3,54,476	4,11,346	4,56,000	4,68,000	4,66,000	
Lunatic Asylums	1,57,000	1,60,678	1,65,754	1,72,000	1,74,000	1,76,000	Increase is under establishment.
Special Hospitals	10,000	10,040	10,601	11,000	11,000	11,000	
Chemical Examiner	52,000	50,185	58,851	67,000	41,000	57,000	Decrease in revised is due to reduction of analysing staff. Decrease in budget is for abolition of one post of Assistant Chemical Examiner, and non-provision for a probationer and smaller provision for house allowance.
Refunds	13,000	14,748	13,002	14,500	14,000	14,928	
Lump grant for non-recurring expenditure on sanitation	.....	.....	.....	6,76,000	1,25,000	18,82,772	The amounts formerly provided for under Civil Works in charge of Civil Officers have now been provided for here to show in one place the whole of the grant for the improvement of sanitation.
Ditto for recurring grant ...	.....	.....	.....	5,00,000	50,000	9,50,000	
Grant for Medical relief	.....	.....	.....	1,00,000	12,000	80,000	This is the balance of the Imperial grant of one lakh.
Lump grant for School of Tropical Medicine	.....	.....	.....	1,00,000	.....	1,50,000	Includes one lakh, the balance of the Imperial grant, and Rs. 50,000 for equipments.
Lump deduction for probable savings ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	—10,00,000	
Grand Total ...	24,37,000	26,14,743	26,42,133	11,01,000	20,00,000	47,81,000	Revised based on the actuals of the first nine months.

Political Agents	10,000	14,648	11,854	14,900	15,500	15,600	
Entertainment of Envoys and Chiefs ...	1,000	.. .	.....	... .	.....	.....	
Durbar presents and allowances to Vakils, etc.	17,000	7,872	23,750	10,600	12,000	10,000	
Miscellaneous	3,000	102	3,372	3,500	2,500	3,400	
Total ...	31,000	22,622	38,976	29,000	30,000	29,000	Revised based on the actuals of the first nine months.

26.—Scientific and other Minor Departments –

Veterinary and stallion charges	2,05,000	2,02,035	1,70,807	1,89,000	1,74,500	1,80,000	Decrease in revised is under Supplies and Services and contingencies of the Veterinary College, allowances of Veterinary Inspectors, and contingencies of Veterinary Hospitals.
Donations to Scientific Societies	14,000	14,950	15,200	11,600	11,600	11,600	
Agriculture	3,95,000	4,03,479	3,47,109	4,84,000	4,49,000	5,55,000	Decrease in revised is chiefly under Sericulture. Increase in budget is for the appointment of a Second Deputy Director of Agriculture, additional supervisors, provision for field men, Demonstrators and Apprentices, additional grant for travelling allowance and for additional expenditure on experimental farms
Provincial Museum	1,000	.....	.....	1,000	.....	.....	
Cinchona plantations	4,02,000	3,85,751	6,67,844	2,54,200	2,71,000	2,58,000	Increase in budget is for additional temporary establishment owing to the extension of the plantations.
Public exhibitions and fairs	1,000	379	2,622	... .	100	.....	
Botanical and other public gardens ...	1,89,000	1,74,598	1,77,519	2,06,000	1,66,000	1,94,000	Decrease in revised is for savings in the pay of the Superintendent, Royal Botanic Gardens, the permanent incumbent being on leave, and in the grants for supplies and services and contingencies. Budget provides Rs. 20,000 for grant to the Zoological Garden, while the estimate for 1913-14 included Rs 30,000 on the same account.
Emigration	22,000	19,464	22,224	23,000	23,000	23,000	
Inspector of Factories	52,000	65,022	60,086	72,000	59,500	79,000	Decrease in revised is for savings in the provision for allowances to Civil Medical officers for inspecting factories. Budget includes provision for an additional Inspector.
Census	2,000	1,634	.....	.. ...	. ...	.. ...	
Gazetteer and Statistical Memoirs ...	1,000	3,135	3,726	14,000	4,000	10,000	Decrease in revised is for the delay in the preparation of the Gazetteer volumes.
Registration of railway traffic	12,000	11,167	9,933	8,000	8,000	8,360	
Ditto of river-borne traffic ...	6,000	10,412	5,653	3,600	3,000	6,550	Budget includes provision for registration of steamer-borne trade traffic at Bhairab Bazar in Mymensingh and for the registration of traffic passing over inland wharves.
Provincial statistics	20,000	25,216	30,150	26,400	28,000	23,300	
Preservation and translation of ancient manuscripts	7,000	5,850	7,625	9,000	9,000	9,000	
Examinations	1,000	441	422	500	500	700	

28.—*Scientific and other Minor Departments*—concluded.

Heads.	Actuals.			1913-14.		1914-15.	Remarks.
	1910-11.	1911-12.	1912-13.	Sanctioned estimate.	Revised estimate.	Budget estimate.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Inspector of Mines	.....	265	125	300	200	200	
Bacteriology	10,000	10,272	13,029	11,500	12,500	13,000	
Registrar of Co-operative Credit Societies ...	57,000	80,391	61,061	73,000	77,000	93,000	Budget provides for additional establishment for the extension of the department.
Inland Labour Transport Fund ...	29,000	29,030	22,687	22,000	23,000	27,000	Budget includes provision for the construction of a bungalow for the Emigration Officer at Goalundo.
Miscellaneous (Smoke Nuisance and Fishery charges)	33,000	37,331	45,415	1,23,000	1,05,000	86,000	Budget for 1913-14 included provision for a new launch for the Fishery Department.
Imperial Institute	.. ...	8	.....	.. ...	100	... ..	
Refunds	2,000	108	726	500	1,000	1,200	
Lump provision for agriculture and allied objects	.....	...	.....	1,80,000	1,06,000	1,52,000	Revised includes Rs. 20,000 for the Cinchona Department, Rs. 85,000 for the Rangpur Dairy Farm and Rs. 1,000 for grant to Tea Association. Budget provides for regrant of saving of Rs. 52,000 from Imperial grant and Provincial grant of one lakh for the improvement of the Agricultural Department.
For rounding	.....	.. ...	.....	.....	...	+90	
Total	14,61,000	14,80,938	16,63,953	17,13,000	15,32,000	17,30,000	Revised based on the actuals of the first nine months.

29.—*Superannuation*—

Covenanted Civil Service pension ...	25,78,000	43,750	45,000	44,000	45,000	45,000	
Superannuation and retired allowances ..		27,13,887	28,54,278	29,50,000	29,64,000	30,83,000	Budget provides for the normal growth of expenditure.
Compassionate allowances	10,000	2,683	2,647	5,000	4,000	4,000	
Gratuities	25,000	16,380	14,932	14,000	12,000	15,000	Based on actuals.
Ports and Pilotage pensions	9,000	8,603	8,493	8,500	8,500	8,500	
Refunds	... ..	334	338	500	500	500	
Commuted value of pensions	.....	.. ..	.....	.....	75,000	75,000	A new head opened as desired by the Comptroller-General.
Total	26,22,000	27,85,637	29,25,688	30,22,000	31,09,000	32,31,000	Revised based on the actuals of the first nine months.

Forms Department at the Presidency ...	50,000	[illegible]91	52,002	59,000	57,000	71,000	Budget includes Rs. 10,000 for allowances to establishment owing to the introduction of jail hours.
Stationery purchased in the country ...	26,000		23,130	25,000	24,000	25,000	
Government presses	6,44,000	6,74,[illegible]	6,24,[illegible]	6,24,000	6,40,000	6,84,000	Budget includes larger provision for plant of the Secretariat Press and Provision for the branch Press at Koilaghat.
Printing at private presses	4,000	[illegible],075 31	1,222	4,000	2,000	2,000	
Stationery supplied from Central Stores ...	9,30,000	8,19,035	6,32,102	6,46,000	8,13,000	6,60,000	Revised includes additional grants of Rs. 82,000 for Dacca Jail Press and Rs. 85,000 for Forms Department.
Refunds	... ...	2,428	1,256	2,000	3,000	2,000	
Total ...	16,54,000	15,79,021	13,34,429	13,60,000	15,39,000	14,44,000	Revised based on the actuals of the first nine months.

32.—Miscellaneous—

Miscellaneous charges for the treatment of patients of the Pasteur Institute ...	1,000	1,492	1,296	1,500	1,000	1,000	Based on actuals.
Travelling allowances to officers attending examinations	4,000	3,774	7,150	3,500	5,000	4,000	
Reward for proficiency in Oriental languages, and allowance to the Language Examination Committee	8,000	7,200	4,017	9,000	4,000	6,000	
Cost of books and publications	16,000	47,503	8,112	3,000	1,000	1,000	The actuals of 1912-13 included Rs. 3,000 paid to "Biswavarta" and Rs. 5,000 for purchase of copyright of Mr. Garett's "Sale Law."
Donations for charitable purposes ...	1,57,000	1,83,618	2,30,273	1,60,000	2,27,000	1,70,000	Revised includes building grants of Rs. 26,450 to the Prisoners Aid Society, Rs. 3,000 to Calcutta Orphanage and Rs. 11,666 for Anath Bhander.
Charges on account of European vagrants ..	5,000	4,603	7,960	7,000	4,000	6,000	
Rewards for destruction of wild animals ...	9,000	16,503	13,953	14,000	20,000	19,000	Revised and budget raised with reference to increasing actuals.
Petty establishments	48,000	50,291	37,695	43,500	44,000	23,000	The charges of the Controller of Office System have been transferred to High Court.
Special Commissions of Enquiry ...	40,000	484	52,274	19,000	1,85,000	50,000	Revised includes Rs. 1,00,000 for the District Administration Committee and Rs. 77,000 for the Port Facilities Committee. Budget includes Rs. 20,000 for the former and Rs. 3,000 for the latter and Rs. 27,000 for other charges.
Irrecoverable temporary loans written off ...	7,000	4	2,323	1,000	4,000	4,000	
Rent rates and taxes	38,000	54,106	45,496	54,000	42,000	45,000	Decrease due to the payment of owner's share of taxes by the Public Works Department.
Contributions	2,33,000	1,75,287	3,396	4,000	10,000	8,800	Budget includes provision for guarantee of new Telegraph offices to be opened for Police, and other purposes.

32.—Miscellaneous—concluded.

Heads.	Actuals.			1913-14.		1914-15.	Remarks.
	1910-11.	1911-12.	1912-13.	Sanctioned estimate.	Revised estimate.	Budget estimate.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Miscellaneous and unforeseen charges ...	3,000	7,245	4,804	2,62,000	1,58,000	3,06,000	Revised includes Rs. 1,50,000 for expenditure on gratuitous relief in flooded areas, Rs. 4,000 for King's portrait and Rs. 4,000 for other charges. The decrease as compared with budget is due to the adjustment under proper heads of the expenditure from petty grants by His Excellency and the reserve provision for unforeseen charges. The budget for 1914-15 includes Rs. 1,00,000 for petty grants by His Excellency, Rs. 1,50,000 for reserve, Rs. 50,000 for expenditure on gratuitous relief, and Rs. 6,000 for other charges.
Miscellaneous refunds	8,000	8,261	2,732	8,500	8,000	8,000	
Annual stipend to holders of literary titles ...	.....	.....	4,092	3,000	3,000	3,000	
Lump provision for grain compensation allowance for all departments	.....	.....	.....	3,60,000	.....	4,00,000	The charges for 1913-14 have been distributed to the respective departments. Budget is intended to provide for the increase of pay of menials of all departments when the grain allowance will cease.
Charges for search of hidden treasure ...	.....	.....	37	.....	.....	.....	
Remission for certain recoveries from Local Bodies	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	26,000	This has just been sanctioned by the Government of India.
For rounding ...	.....	.....	...	.....	.....	+200	
Total ...	5,77,000	5,60,371	4,25,610	9,53,000	7,16,000	10,81,000	Revised based on the actuals of the first nine months.

42.—Irrigation—Major Works (Working Expenses)—

Midnapore Canal		2,43,964	2,06,943	1,87,000	1,97,000	2,10,000	Budget includes provisions for special repairs to the distributaries.
Hijili Tidal Canals		33,122	28,774	53,000	1,09,000	86,000	Both revised and budget include provision for charges for silt clearance.
Total ...	2,65,000	2,77,086	2,35,717	2,40,000	3,06,000	2,96,000	
Provincial Share ...	2,65,000	1,38,[illegible]	1,17,858	1,20,000	1,53,000	1,48,000	

42.—Irrigation—Major Works (Interest on Debt)—

Interest	3,39,000	334	3,51,236	3,52,000	3,38,000	3,38,000	
Provincial Share	3,39,0[illegible]	[illegible]	1,75,618	1,76,000	1,69,000	1,[illegible]9,000	

IN CHARGE OF THE CIVIL DEPARTMENT.							
Embankments under the contract system—							
Establishments ...		2,375	1,882	2,000	2,000	2,000	
Contingencies		31	48	500	500	5,500	Budget includes Rs. 5,000 for grant-in aid for bandalling the river Ganges near Rampur Boalia
Maintenance charges of the Howrah and Rajapur drainage projects ...		1,426	.....	...	.....	.....	
Refunds		6	.....	500	500	500	
Bonus		71	.....	...	...	...	
Total in charge of the Civil Department	3,000	3,909	1,930	3,000	3,000	8,000	
Provincial Share	3,000	1,954	965	1,000	1,000	4,000	
IN CHARGE OF THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.							
IRRIGATION AND NAVIGATION WORKS.							
Works for which Capital and Revenue Accounts are kept.							
CAPITAL.							
Works in Progress.							
Midnapore Canal		(−)3,942	1,198	2,400	1,200	2,400	
Hijili Tidal Canal		...	..	...	.....	...	
Hooghly Bidyadhari Canal		.....	12,741	.....	21,759	...	
Calcutta and Eastern Canals		(−)96,978	−82,320	−77,600	−80,450	−56,800	
Madaripur Bhil scheme		4,59,082	96,489	2,26,400	2,93,000	34,500	
Utterbhag lock		14,798	73,862	26,800	26,300	...	
Total Capital ...		3,72,960	1,00,900	1,77,000	2,61,809	−18,900	
REVENUE.							
Orissa Coast Canal		19,016	18,957	26,000	20,770	17,400	
Calcutta and Eastern Canals		3,01,057	4,39,661	5,88,000	4,38,050	6,12,000	
Madaripur Bhil scheme		7,310	92,917	63,000	93,800	60,500	
Total Revenue ...		3,27,283	5,51,435	6,77,000	5,52,620	6,89,900	
Total Works for which Capital and Revenue accounts are kept ...		7,00,243	6,52,395	8,54,000	8,20,429	6,71,000	

43.—*Minor Works and Navigation*—concluded.

Heads.	Actuals.			1913-14.		1914-15.	Remarks.
	1910-11.	1911-12.	1912-13.	Sanctioned estimate.	Revised estimate.	Budget estimate.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs	
Works for which only Revenue accounts are kept.							
Works in Progress.							
Nadia Rivers		80,226	1,38,461	1,23,500	1,24,400	1,29,000	
Gaighatta and Buxi *Khals*		4,680	8,637	500	500	600	
Total Works for which only Revenue accounts are kept		84,906	1,47,098	1,24,000	1,24,900	1,29,600	
Works for which neither Capital nor Revenue accounts are kept.							
Works in Progress.							
Eden Canal		28,341	20,684	38,000	58,500	89,000	Budget includes Rs. 35,000 for the construction of a new sluice below Jujati.
Improvement of navigable channels—Ganges river		22,543	54,332	35,000	45,000	45,000	
Dredging the Bhagirathi entrance ...							
Ditto Gorai entrance		60,530		7,000	15,121	20,000	
Other works							
Dredging the Dhaleswari and Buriganga rivers							
Bandalling and putting on spurs on the Dhaleswari and Buriganga rivers ...		.....	48,691	88,000	79,000	80,000	
Grant-in-aid for bandalling the Ganges near Rampur Boalia							
Improving the channel of the Karnafuli ...							
Repairs							
Dredging the Puttimari channel ...		.....	.....	... ..	.....	86,400	
Taking tidal observations and making surveys in connection with the proposed canalisation of the Bidyadhari and Peali rivers		... ..	.. ...	.....	13,262	.....	
Total Works for which neither Capital nor Revenue accounts are kept ...		1,11,414	1,23,707	1,68,000	2,10,883	3,20,400	
Total Irrigation and Navigation Works ..		8,96,563	9,23,200	11,46,000	11,66,212	11,21,000	

Works for which only Revenue accounts are kept and for which neither Capital nor Revenue accounts are kept.						
Works in Progress.						
Government embankments						
Midnapore takavi embankments under contract						
Rajapur and Howrah drainage						
Magra Hât drainage project						
Total Agricultural ...	.....	6,70,544	6,13,107	6,96,000	8,36,639	10,94,000
Reserve	.....	.....	.....	24,000	1,149	23,000
Total in charge of the Public Works Department	17,40,000	15,67,107	15,36,307	18,66,000	19,94,000	22,38,000
Provincial share	17,40,000	7,83,553	7,68,153	9,33,000	9,97,000	11,19,000

45.—Civil Works—

In Charge of the Civil Department.						
Provision for Sub-Overseers in each subdivision in Bengal to report on the real condition of rural water-supply ..		.....	.....	38,000	27,000	14,000
Ferry charges		2,485	2,584	5,827	5,578	7,838
,, refunds		7,517	9,505	12,000	10,300	12,000
Staging bungalows		4,223	5,660	6,996	4,200	3,947
Encamping grounds		17	59	500	139	776
Arboriculture		13,764	21,146	.. ...	.. .	.....
Cemetery Establishment		.....	.....	.....	4,800	4,613
Contributions in aid of excluded local funds and municipalities		8,28,989	4,36,575	14,95,320	9,00,466	1,74,813
Other items		14,461	1,74,290	4,650	21,183	5,150
Grant to the Calcutta Improvement Trust ...		11,50,000	11,50,000	11,50,000	11,50,000	11,50,000
Contribution to district funds and district road funds		10,06,283	8,80,565	3,07,934	7,06,324	7,03,700
Deduct—Probable savings ...		.....		—1,227		+163
Total in charge of the Civil Department ...	16,74,000	30,27,729	26,80,384	30,20,000	28,30,000	20,77,000

45.—Civil Works—concluded.

Heads.	Actuals.			1913-14.		1914-15.	Remarks.
	1910-11.	1911-12.	1912-13.	Sanctioned estimate.	Revised estimate.	Budget estimate.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
In charge of the Public Works Department.							
Original Works.							
Civil Buildings { In progress				14,79,900	43 09,000	15,69,000	
Civil Buildings { Not commenced ...				24,08,017		28,92 000	
Communications. { In progress				1,06,900	3,89,000	1,46,000	
Communications. { Not commenced ...				3,29,900		9,38,000	
Miscellaneous Public Improvements. { In progress				65,300	83,000	14,000	
Miscellaneous Public Improvements. { Not commenced ...				3,300		.....	
Total ...				43,93,317	47,81,000	55,59,000	Larger grants made for new works.
Repairs.							
Civil Buildings				10,04,290	10,18,000	12,73,000	
Communications				7,79,000	8,27,000	8,00,000	
Miscellaneous Public Improvements ...				1,09,310	1,12,000	1,10,000	
Total ...				18,92,600	19,57,000	21,83,000	
Establishment				11,07,083	10,20,000	11,47,000	Budget includes salary of the Irrigation Secretary.
Tools and Plant				37,000	39,000	70,000	
Stock and Suspense				.....	3,000	.....	
Total in charge of Public Works Department	63,65,000	61,52,000	63,21,755	74,30,000	78,00,000	89,59,000	

Obligatory schemes which have been provided for in the Budget for 1914-15.

udget head and d under which n has been	Nature of scheme.	Estimate of ultimate maximum cost.			Estimate of expenditure in 1914-15.			Remarks.
		Non-recurring.	Recurring.	Total.	Non-recurring.	Recurring.	Total.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
nd Revenue.		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
: District Admi-n.	Appointment of an Additional District Magistrate for 24-Parganas.	.....	27,600	27,600	.....	27,600	27,600	3rd grade Magistrate ... ... 1,500 Average pay of a Joint-Magistrate 800 2,300×12 A reference has been made to the Government of India for sanction to the proposal.
tto ...	Purchase of iron-safes for Treasuries and Sub-Treasuries.	10,000	.....	10,000	10,000	.....	10,000	The Inspector-General of Police in one of his inspection notes brought to notice that in certain Treasuries and Sub-Treasuries notes are kept in wooden boxes which are not safe. Iron safes should be supplied to these Treasuries.
tto ...	Steam launch for the Collector of Faridpur.	40,000	.....	40,000	40,000	.....	40,000	
	Total Land Revenue ...	50,000	27,600	77,600	50,000	27,600	77,600	
xcise ...	House accommodation for Excise Inspectors, Sub-Inspectors, petty officers and peons.	2,15,725	20,000	2,35,725	50,000	.....	50,000	The ultimate cost is as below :— Non-recurring. Rs. Burdwan Division ... 53,700 Presidency „ ... 41,900 Dacca „ ... 37,750 Chittagong „ ... 22,725 Rajshahi „ ... 59,650 Total ... 2,15,725 It is proposed to provide for a non-recurring expenditure of Rs. 50,000 in 1914-15.

Budget head and head under which ision has been e.	Nature of scheme.	Estimate of ultimate maximum cost.			Estimate of expenditure in 1914-15.			Remarks.
		Non-recurring.	Recurring.	Total.	Non-recurring.	Recurring.	Total.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
-*Excise*—concld. ...	Construction of launches and boats.	1,04,400	12,400	1,16,800	50,000	.....	50,000	This is required for more efficient prevention of Excise offences than is possible at present. During 1914-15 the Excise Commissioner requires the following :— Rs. 1 launch ... 45,000 } for the districts of Khulna, Dacca, Mymensingh, Faridpur, Bakarganj, Chittagong and Hooghly. 26 boats and 22 dinghies ... 14,400 } It is proposed to provide a lump sum of Rs. 50,000.
	Total Excise ...	3,20,125	32,400	3,52,525	1,00,000	.....	1,00,000	
11.—Forests.								
onservancy and Works.	Reconstruction of Divisional bungalow at Kalimpong, Tista Division.	8,000	.....	8,000	8,000	.....	8,000	The bungalow was constructed so far back as 1879, and its reconstruction is necessary.
Ditto ...	Purchase of 2 elephants for Chittagong Hill Tracts Division.	6,000	.....	6,000	6,000	.....	6,000	This was sanctioned in 1912-13, but funds lapsed as no elephants were available for purchase in that year.
Ditto ...	Construction of 4 accommodation boats and 2 water boats for Sundarbans Division.	11,600	.....	11,600	11,600	.....	11,600	This is required to replace boats which are worn out and which cannot be economically repaired. Rs. 4 accommodation boats ... ... 8,000 2 water boats 3,600
Ditto ...	New boilers for the launches of the Sundarbans Division.	10,500	.....	10,500	10,500	.....	10,500	New boilers for— S. L. *Hawk* ... ... 6,600 „ *Helen Grey* ... ... 3,900 The Dockyard authorities advise that these should be

	low at Buxa Duar, Buxa Division.							
	Total Forests ...	44,100	.....	44,100	44,100	.....	44,100	
Registration.								
harges, Calcutta	Creation of a post of Registrar of Joint-Stock Companies.	.....	21,852	21,852	.....	17,736	17,736	The proposal has already been submitted to the Government of India for sanction.
Charges—District gistrars and gistrars.	Increase of leave reserve	.....	10,000	10,000	.....	10,000	10,000	The present reserve calculated at 8 per cent. on the total cadre is insufficient, and it is proposed to raise it to 12 per cent.
Ditto ...	Increase of salaries of District Sub-Registrars.	.....	8,100	8,100	.....	8,100	8,100	The difference between the rate of salary of a District Sub-Registrar of grade IV and that of a Sub-Registrar of grade I is only Rs. 25. Considering the status and responsibility of an officer of the rank of District Sub-Registrar, there should be a larger difference. It is proposed that the pay of a District Sub-Registrar of grade IV should be Rs. 200 instead of Rs. 175; the rates of pay in the first, second and third grades of District Sub-Registrars should be increased also by Rs. 25.
	Total Registration ...	.....	39,952	39,952	.....	35,836	35,836	
aw and Justice—urts of Law.								
art	One Additional Judge and his establishment.	.....	53,148	53,148	.....	53,148	53,148	Rs. Additional Judge ... ... 48,000 Establishment 5,148

Budget head and head under which ision has been e.	Nature of scheme.	Estimate of ultimate maximum cost.			Estimate of expenditure in 1914-15.			Remarks.
		Non-recurring.	Recurring.	Total.	Non-recurring.	Recurring.	Total.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Law and Justice—rts of Law—contd.		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Court ...	Entertainment of three shorthand writers and one shorthand typist for the Original Side of the High Court.	.....	8,700	8,700	.....	4,500	4,500	The proposal has been sanctioned by the Government of India— Rs. 3 shorthand writers ... 150—5—200 each. 1 shorthand typist ... 75—5—125. Provision has been made for 3 only in the budget for 1914-15.
ency Magistrates, utta Police Court.	Entertainment of additional establishment for the new Police Courts in the northern and southern parts of the town.	.....	6,048	6,048	.....	6,048	6,048	Rs. 2 head-clerks (80) ... ... 160 2 nazirs and cashiers (40) ... 80 4 Honorary Magistrates' Bench clerks (30) ... ... 120 2 comparing clerks (30) ... 60 4 orderlies (8) ... ... 32 2 durwans (8) ... ... 16 2 duftries (8) ... ... 16 Grant of an increase of Rs. 10 to each of the 2 office clerks ... 20 Rs. Total ... 504×12=6,048
Ditto ...	Establishment of a juvenile court and House of detention for juvenile offenders in Calcutta.	8,000	9,400	17,400	8,000	9,400	17,400	
ency Court of Small es.	Reorganization of the office of the Small Cause Court, Calcutta.	.....	10,075	10,075	.....	10,075	10,075	To provide for the increase of pay of the Clerk of the Court from Rs. 400—20—500 to Rs. 500—40—700, the new appointment of an Assistant Clerk of the Court and other small increases in the office establishment at a cost of Rs. 839-$\frac{7}{12}$ per mensem already sanctioned.

the second grade and 24 in the third grade. The following additions to the cadre have been sanctioned.

		Number.	Cost.
			Rs.
1st grade on Rs.	1,000 ...	1	1,000
2nd " "	800 ...	2	1,600
3rd " "	600 ...	3	1,800
			4,400×12 =52,800

The sanctioned strength of Munsiffs in Bengal is 245. The present and the sanctioned grading of Munsiffs is as shown below :—

	Present number.	Sanctioned number.	Present cost.	Sanctioned cost.
Special grade on Rs. 500	12	25	6,000	12,500
1st grade on Rs. 400 ...	61	49	24,400	19,600
2nd grade on Rs. 300 ...	70	66	21,000	19,800
3rd grade on Rs. 250 ...	66	70	16,500	17,500
4th grade on Rs. 200 ...	36	35	7,200	7,000
	245	245	75,100	76,400

The increase of cost on account of the regrading of Munsiffs is therefore Rs. 76,400—75,100=1,300×12= Rs. 15,600.

The total cost involved in the reorganization of the Provincial Judicial Service and the regrading of Munsiffs is Rs. 52,800+15,600=Rs. 68,400.

In the Budget for 1913-14 a provision of Rs. 50,000 was made for the regrading of Munsiffs. The sanction of the Secretary of State has just been received.

r Budget head and -head under which vision has been de.	Nature of scheme.	Estimate of ultimate maximum cost.			Estimate of expenditure in 1914-15.			Remarks.
		Non-recurring.	Recurring.	Total.	Non-recurring.	Recurring.	Total.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
—*Law and Justice—* *urts of Law*—concld.		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
and Sessions Courts	Increase of the pay of the last grade of Munsiffs from Rs. 200 to Rs. 250.	.....	21,000	21,000	.....	21,000	21,000	After the regrading referred to in the preceding item the value of 35 appointments on Rs. 200 will have to be raised to Rs. 250.
inal Courts ...	Chaukidari panchayat—Appointment of additional 40 Sub-Deputy Collectors in connection with chaukidari circle system.	.....	88,800	88,800	.....	40,000	40,000	Rs. 1st grade 2 on Rs. 250 ... ... 500 2nd „ 6 „ 200 ... ... 1,200 3rd „ 12 „ 175 ... ... 2,100 4th „ 12 „ 150 ... ... 1,800 5th „ 8 „ 100 ... ... 800 6,400×12 =76,800 Allowance ... ... 12,000 In the Budget for 1913-14 a provision of Rs. 15,000 was made for 20 officers for 4 months, but the Secretary of State has now sanctioned the addition of 40 posts. Some appointments will be made this year and more in next year. A provision of Rs. 40,000 will be necessary in 1914-15.
	Total Law and Justice—Courts of Law ...	8,000	2,65,571	2,73,571	8,000	2,12,571	2,20,571	
—*Law and Justice—* *Jails.*								
blishment—Warder establishment.	Improvement in the Jail Warders' service.	.....	64,252	64,252	.....	40,000	40,000	It is proposed to give better rates of pay to the warders, to increase the strength of the establishment, and to do away with local allowances, recruit warders, orderlies and reserve warders, etc. The existing and proposed rates of different grades are shown below :— Present. Rs. / Proposed. Rs. Chief Head Warder ... 30 to 35 } 35 & 32 Reserve Head Warder 30 to 35 }

								2nd ditto ... 25, 16 to 22, 20 } 24 3rd ditto ... 13 to 16, 16 } 18 1st grade Warders ... 10 2nd ditto ... 9 3rd ditto ... 8 Warders ... ... 10 to 13 } 12 to 15 One Female Warder ... 15 { Matron, 18 Female Warder ... 8 to 10-8 { 14 Ditto ... 10—1—13 { 12 to 14, 12
factures ...	Machinery for the Dacca Central Jail.	10,000	.....	10,000	10,000	.....	10,000	This is a proposal to fully equip the Dacca Jail for the production of jail manufactures like the Bhagalpur Jail which is no longer under the control of this Government. This is expected to increase the receipts from jail manufactures.
	Total Law and Justice—Jails	10,000	64,252	74,252	10,000	40,000	50,000	
—Police.								
Police—endence ...	Conveyance allowance of Deputy Commissioner of Police.	.....	5,625	5,625	.....	5,625	5,625	The proposal has been sanctioned by the Government of India. They have ruled that if a 4-seated car is kept the allowance will be Rs. 150 per mensem, and for a 2-seated car Rs. 100 per mensem. The grant is also subject to the condition that a motor-car of not less than the seating capacity mentioned is actually maintained and used by officers in the course of their duties. The officers who keep horses in preference to a motor-car will be entitled to the horse allowance of Rs. 75, but not both allowances concurrently. Rs. Government share ... ... 5,625 Port Commissioners' share... ... 675 Total ... 6,300

Budget head and ead under which sion has been	Nature of scheme.	Estimate of ultimate maximum cost.			Estimate of expenditure in 1914-15.			Remarks.
		Non-recurring.	Recurring.	Total.	Non-recurring.	Recurring.	Total.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
—*Police*—contd.		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
ncy Police—								
itta Police ...	Additional Police force for Criminal Investigation Department and Special Branch, Calcutta.	.....	12,515	12,515	.....	12,258	12,258	Rs. Pay and allowance of three Sub-Inspectors and 13 constables and local allowances of four Head constables ... 9,144 House rent ... ... 2,460 Contingencies ... ... 654 Total ... 12,258 The ultimate cost will increase with the increase of pay of constables. The scheme was sanctioned with effect from 1st April 1913.
Ditto ...	Additional Police staff in connection with the scheme for decentralization of the Police Court at Lall Bazar.	.....	13,115	13,115	.....	12,680	12,680	Rs. Pay of one Inspector, two Sub-Inspectors and 22 constables ... 9,240 rising to Rs. 9,636. Conveyance allowance ... 780 Clothing ... ... 236 House rent ... ... 1,500 Contingencies ... ... 924 rising to Rs. 963. Total ... 12,680
Ditto ...	Calcutta Police Training School.	4,878	28,577	33,455	4,878	28,577	33,455	Recurring— Pay of 2 Inspectors, 4 Sub-Inspectors, 22 Head constables and two buglers 18,888 Allowances ... ... 2,952 Ministerial and menial establishment 1,164 Contingencies ... ... 1,889 House rent ... ... 3,360 Clothing ... ... 324 Non-recurring— Iron cots ... ... 3,250 Gymnastic appliances ... ... 600 Initial first kit of clothing ... 1,028

							Contingencies 500
...	Additional Police force to guard the Government Dockyard, Kidderpore.	508	6,132	6,640	508	5,492	6,000	Recurring— Pay and allowances of 1 Sub-Inspector, 2 Head-constables and 14 constables ... ... 4,404 Clothing ... ... 162 Contingencies ... ... 366 House rent ... ... 1,200 Non-recurring— Initial charge on account of clothing ... 508 It has been proposed to make a lump provision of Rs. 6,000 in 1914-15.
...	Additional Police staff to regulate traffic at the landing stages of the Port Commissioners' ferry service.	.....	10,149	10,149	.....	9,350	9,350	2 Sergeants (100—$\frac{1}{2}$—125). 5 Head-constables, 1 (25), 2 (20), 2 (17-8). 20 Constables (10—13). Rs. Clothing ... ... 470 Mess allowance ... ... 480 House rent ... ... 1,800 Contingencies 67
	Deduct debitable to Port Commissioners.	.....	6,766	6,766	.....	6,233	6,233	The cost is debitable to the Port Commissioners and Government in the proportion of 3 to 1. The scheme has already been sanctioned by Government in July 1913.
		.....	3,383	3,383	.....	3,117	3,117	
...	Provision for a steam-cutter and crew.	10,000	2,805	12,805	10,000	2,805	12,805	This is required for river traffic, and the Port Commissioners have agreed to this. Rs. Rs. Cost of a steam-cutter ... ... 10,000 Pay of crew ... ... 1,065 Clothing ... ... 40 Contingencies 1,700 2,805
	Deduct debitable to Port Commissioners.	6,667	1,870	8,537	6,667	1,870	8,537	
		3,333	935	4,268	3,333	935	4,268	The charge will be divided between the Port Commissioners and Government in the proportion of 3 to 1.

Budget head and head under which sion has been	Nature of scheme.	Estimate of ultimate maximum cost.			Estimate of expenditure in 1914-15.			Remarks.
		Non-recurring.	Recurring.	Total.	Non-recurring.	Recurring.	Total.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
—*Police*—contd.		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
ıtendence ...	Appointment of a fourth Range Deputy Inspector-General of Police.	31,000	24,600	55,600	1,000	24,600	25,600	At present there are three Range Deputy Inspectors-General—one for the eleven districts of the Presidency and Burdwan Divisions, one for the seven districts of the Dacca and Chittagong Divisions, and one for the eight districts of the Rajshahi Division. Experience has shown that the Presidency Range is too heavy and the Dacca Range requires thorough supervision, and it is proposed to appoint a 4th Range Deputy Inspector-General to give relief to these ranges. Recurring— Rs. Salary of Deputy Inspector-General ... 1,500 Establishment and contingencies ... 550 Non-recurring— Construction of house for the Deputy Inspector-General ... ... 30,000 Office furniture, etc. ... ... 1,000 It is proposed to provide only for the full recurring expenditure during 1914-15, and nothing for construction of the house.
Ditto ...	Increase of office establishment of the Inspector-General of Police.	.....	6,000	6,000	.....	6,000	6,000	The Inspector-General has proposed to increase the establishment by the following staff to cope with the increased work :— Rs. 1 clerk ... ... 200 1 „ ... ... 150 1 „ ... ... 125 1 „ ... ... 100 1 „ ... ... 60 1 shorthand typist ... ... 100—125 2 typists ... ... 30—50 each. It is proposed to provide Rs. 6,000 only, as the full

trict Police	...	Strengthening of armed police detachments in subdivisions of Western Bengal districts.	4,230	15,990	20,220	4,230	15,990	20,220	The Government of India generally approved the scheme for strengthening the armed reserve in certain district head-quarters and for posting detachments in certain important subdivisions. The provision now made represents the cost of giving effect to this scheme with certain modifications which further consideration has shown to be necessary. It is proposed to replace Sergeants by Sub-Inspectors in some districts.
Ditto	...	Strengthening of armed police reserve.	3,080	10,854	13,934	3,080	10,854	13,934	The scheme for the reorganization of the subordinate police in Eastern Bengal does not provide for increase of armed reserve in the districts of Malda, Bogra and Noakhali, nor for a detachment at Serajganj in Pabna.
Ditto	...	Establishment of 15 armed posts in Madaripur.	3,990	12,168	16,158	.....	12,168	12,168	Monthly. Rs. Pay of Head-constables ... ... 225 Deputation allowance ... ... 166 Lighting charges for 15 posts ... 23 Hire of boats ... ... 600 The non-recurring expenditure will be incurred in 1913-14.
Ditto	...	Increase of pay of Sergeants and grant of local allowance.	.....	9,350	9,350	.....	9,000	9,000	It is proposed to raise the pay of 38 Sergeants from Rs. 90—120 to Rs. 100—125, and to grant local allowance to certain Sergeants at the rates of Rs. 15, 20 and 25 who are stationed at Dacca, Narainganj, Chittagong, Darjeeling, etc.
Ditto	...	Armed posts in Dacca Division.	.....	27,720	27,720	.....	27,720	27,720	
Ditto	...	Increase of cadre of Deputy Superintendents.	.....	17,100	17,100	.....	17,100	17,100	It is proposed to add eight new appointments— Rs. One 1st grade ... ... 500 Two 2nd „ at Rs. 400 each ... 800 Two 3rd „ „ 300 „ ... 600 Three 4th „ „ 250 „ ... 750 Allowance „ 25 ... ... 200 The excellent result obtained by posting gazetted Police officers in subdivisions is already recognised, and it is proposed to make a provision for the appointment of four Deputy Superintendents in the Budget for 1914-15.

Budget head and head under which action has been taken.	Nature of scheme.	Estimate of ultimate maximum cost.			Estimate of expenditure in 1914-15.			Remarks.
		Non-recurring.	Recurring.	Total.	Non-recurring.	Recurring.	Total.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Police—concld.		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Police ...	Strengthening of head-quarters treasury guards.	800	5,786	6,586	800	5,586	6,386	Captain Macpherson of the Dacca Military Police, who was deputed to examine the present arrangement of guarding the several treasuries of the province, has recommended an extra force of 15 head-constables and 25 constables for the purpose.
Ditto ...	Reorganization of the Military Police establishment.	36,948	52,249	89,197	26,948	52,249	79,197	This is awaiting the sanction of the Secretary of State.
Ditto ...	Establishment of new police-stations in the Asansol subdivision of Burdwan district.	2,360	21,379	23,739	2,064	21,080	23,144	It has become necessary to increase the number of police-stations in Asansol subdivision owing to the abnormal number of burglaries and dacoities there. The provision made does not, however, include the cost of buildings.
Ditto ...	Raising of the conveyance allowance of subordinate Police officers.	.....	42,900	42,900	.....	42,900	42,900	
Ditto ...	Supply of mosquito nets to head-constables and constables.	.....	17,600	17,600	.....	17,600	17,600	1,527 men were provided with nets in 1912-13; 16,589 curtains at Rs. 3-3 each are required for the rest.
Ditto ...	Supply of cots to head-constables and constables living in barracks.	10,000	.....	10,000	10,000	.....	10,000	The Inspector-General of Police proposed Rs. 33,000 for 1914-15, but it has been decided to reduce it to Rs. 10,000.
Ditto ...	Station boat scheme ...	6,122	6,756	12,878	6,122	6,756	12,878	This scheme is being gradually introduced. In the Budget for 1913-14, Rs. 45,000 was provided, and effect has been given in the districts of Dacca, Faridpur, Mymensingh and Tipperah. It is now proposed to extend the scheme to Bakarganj, Pabna, 24-Parganas and Khulna, and to employ additional boats in the districts to which the scheme has already been introduced.

Midnapore involves the addition of two posts of Superintendents, one of Assistant Superintendent and one of Deputy Superintendent—

(*a*) As regards Superintendents, the two posts have been proposed to be added to the third and fourth grades on Rs. 900 and Rs. 800, or the extra cost will amount to Rs. 1,700 per month.

(*b*) As regards the Assistant Superintendent, the proposal is that, with the addition of one post, the appointments should be regraded as follows :—

	Existing number.	Proposed number.	Existing cost.	Proposed cost.
			Rs.	Rs.
First grade on Rs. 500.	17	18	8,500	9,000
Second grade on Rs. 400.	17	18	6,800	7,200
Third grade on Rs. 300.	12	11	3,600	3,300
Total ...	46	47	18,900	19,500

The increase of cost per mensem on this account comes to Rs. 600.

(*c*) In regard to Deputy Superintendents, it is proposed to add the extra appointment to the fourth grade on Rs. 250.

(*d*) Besides the above there is a proposal for the grant of house-rent allowance, at the rate of Rs. 200 a month, to the Additional Superintendent at Alipore.

(*e*) Added to the above is the cost on account of the proposal made in the letter from this Government, No. 3518 A.—D., dated the 23rd September 1912, for the grant of a fixed conveyance allowance of Rs. 50 a month for the Deputy or Assistant Superintendent of Police in charge of the Dacca Town Police.

Budget head and head under which ision has been .	Nature of scheme.	Estimate of ultimate maximum cost.			Estimate of expenditure in 1914-15.			Remarks.
		Non-recurring.	Recurring.	Total.	Non-recurring.	Recurring.	Total.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
-*Police*—contd.		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	The total cost involved in the proposal thus comes to— Rs. (*a*) ... ... 1,700 (*b*) ... ... 600 (*c*) ... ... 250 (*d*) ... ... 200 (*e*) ... ... 50 2,800×12 =33,600 In the Budget for 1913-14 Rs. 5,700 was provided for the additional Superintendents for three months of the year. A reference has been made to the Government of India for sanction to the proposal.
t Police ...	Reorganization of the Subordinate Police in Eastern Bengal.	3,13,868	98,347	4,12,215	3,13,385	91,470	4,04,855	The whole scheme has been sanctioned by the Secretary of State, and effect is being given gradually. In the current year's budget there is a provision of Rs. 1,17,014, recurring, and of Rs. 1,75,000, non-recurring.
tto ...	Regrading of Sub-Inspectors and Head-constables in Eastern Bengal districts.	.....	37,800	37,800	.....	37,800	37,800	Sub-Inspectors— Addition of 8 appointments to 1st grade. " " 40 " " 2nd " " " 60 " " 3rd " Corresponding reduction in the 5th grade. Head-constables :— Addition of 150 appointments in 2nd grade by a corresponding reduction in the 3rd grade.
itto ...	Increase of pay and privileges of Head-	.....	4,75,000	4,75,000	.....	4,75,000	4,75,000	The question has been submitted to the Government of India for orders.

Ditto	...	Introduction of the station boat system in the district of Bakerganj.	5,000	2,808	7,808	.....	2,808	2,808	This has been sanctioned. The non-recurring charge will be incurred during the current year 1913-14.
Ditto	...	A launch for the Deputy Inspector-General of Police, Dacca.	48,287	10,465	58,752	12,000	6,135	18,135	The launch is under construction and Rs. 12,000 will be required to complete it in 1914-15.
Ditto	...	A launch for the Assistant Superintendent of Police, Munshiganj.	34,837	8,267	43,104	34,837	4,101	38,938	
Ditto	...	Alterations to the steam-launch *Ward n.*	8,000	180	8,180	8,000	90	8,090	This launch is for the Assistant Superintendent of Police, Madaripur, and is at present quite unsuitable for the use of European officers. Certain alterations are therefore necessary.
Ditto	...	Settling of *Karwal nuts* of the Rajshahi Division under the Criminal Tribes Act.	23,000	3,600	26,600	23,000	3,600	26,600	
owances	...	Allowance to Police officers.	.....	14,721	14,721	.....	14,721	14,721	It has been decided to grant allowance to the Police officers in certain portions of Jalpaiguri and Darjeeling districts on account of expensive living and other disadvantages generally felt in those places.
plies and Services	...	Purchase of the Charitable Dispensary at Mymensingh.	60,000	.....	60,000	60,000	.....	60,000	This is required for extension of the Mymensingh police-station, which has already been sanctioned.
Ditto	...	Purchase of elephants ...	8,750	1,296	10,046	4,325	675	5,000	The Inspector-General of Police wanted two elephants —

	Recurring	Non-recurring
	Rs.	Rs.
Dinajpur	660	4,326
Malda	636	4,425

A provision of Rs. 5,000 has only been made to enable him to provide for one elephant in 1914-15.

Ditto	...	Supply of boxes to Police officers for safe custody of case diaries.	14,510	.....	14,510	4,527	.....	4,527	Rupees 10,053 was provided for in 1913-14, and the balance Rs. 4,527 is required in 1914-15.

Budget head and head under which ision has been e.	Nature of scheme.	Estimate of ultimate maximum cost.			Estimate of expenditure in 1914-15.			Remarks.
		Non-recurring.	Recurring.	Total.	Non-recurring.	Recurring.	Total.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
—Police—concld.		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Police ...	Reorganization of the River Police.	5,15,059	74,352	5,89,411	4,50,263	71,512	5,21,775	This also has received the sanction of the Secretary of State, and effect is being given gradually as funds permit. In the current year's budget Rs. 1,49,555 recurring and Rs. 3,00,000 non-recurring have been provided. The non-recurring provision proposed for 1914-15 is chiefly intended for the following :— Rs. Floating thanas ... ... 96,384 2 Inspecting offices ... ... 62,000 12 Thana launches ... ... 1,58,400 Floating quarters for 2 Inspectors ... 21,600 Shipway and buildings at Narainganj 1,00,000
ıy Police ...	Extra cost in connection with the division of the East Indian Railway Jurisdiction between Bengal and Bihar.	92	6,618	6,710	92	6,186	6,278	
	Total Police ...	12,16,650	11,29,235	23,45,885	10,51,390	11,07,432	21,58,822	
2.—Education.								
ion ...	Assistant Director of Public Instruction for Mahomedan Education.	.....	26,720	26,720	.....	26,720	26,720	The provision represents the following :— Rs. Assistant Director of Public Instruction 8,400 Allowances ... ... 7,730 Establishment ... ... 3,720 Other charges 6,870
ɔ ...	Revision of the office establishment of the Director of Public	.....	11,900	11,900	.....	11,900	11,900	

	Service to enable the Presidency College to obtain affiliation in Botany and Physiology.							
Ditto ...	Appointment of a whole-time Professor of Geology.	.....	14,400	14,400	.....	4,200	4,200	At present a part-time Professor with an allowance of Rs. 200 a month is doing the work. This is considered unsatisfactory.
Ditto ...	Creation of 3 additional Provincial Educational Service appointments.	.....	10,200	10,200	.....	10,200	10,200	It is proposed to make following additional appointments :—
								Rs.
								1 in class IV 400
								1 „ „ V 350
								1 „ „ VI 300
								1,050
								Deduct one in class VIII to be transferred to Bihar 200
								Total ... 850
Ditto ...	Personal and other allowances to Senior Professors and Heads of Colleges.	.....	10,000	10,000	.....	10,000	10,000	
rnment Schools— ecial—								
aining School for Mistresses.	Additional stipends to be attached to the Training class, Eden High School, Dacca.	.....	5,364	5,364	.....	2,000	2,000	
	Total Education ...	.....	86,384	86,384	.....	72,820	72,820	

udget head and ad under which on has been	Nature of scheme.	Estimate of ultimate maximum cost.			Estimate of expenditure in 1914-15.			Remarks.
		Non-recurring.	Recurring.	Total.	Non-recurring.	Recurring.	Total.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
.—*Medical*								Rs.
Schools and ›s.	Proposal to make the temporary Serological Laboratory at the Medical College permament.	.....	34,600	34,600	.....	34,008	34,008	Salary of Lieut.-Col. Sutherland (1,950) ... 23,400 Exchange compensation allowance ... 1,248 Salary of Assistant Surgeon (280) ... ... 3,360 Pay of three menials (9) ... ... 324 Laboratory expense ... ... 5,196 One Laboratory Assistant (40—60) ... 480
Ditto ...	Staff of the Tropical School of Medicine.	.....	10,800	10,800	.....	5,000	5,000	Allowance to Principal ... ... 2,400 Ditto Professor of Pathology ... 2,400 Ditto ditto Biology ... 2,400 Salary of two Demonstrators (150) ... 3,600 As the school is likely to be started in November 1914, a lump provision of Rs. 5,000 has been made.
to Hospitals, sil Hospitals and ısaries.	Improvement of nursing arrangements in muffasil.	.....	25,000	25,000	.....	25,000	25,000	
al Medical ...	.....	.....	0,400	70,400	.....	64,008	64,008	
ntific and other or Departments.								
ry and Stallion ›s.	Construction of Veterinary dispensaries at district head-quarters.	6,000	.....	6,000	6,000	.....	6,000	The District Boards are generally opposed to spend money on this account. It is necessary for Government to help them.
ure	Revision of the whole Sericultural establishment.	.....	10,809	10,809	.....	5,809	5,809	It has been decided to abolish model nurseries and to establish central nurseries in their places for the supply of disease-free seed to the rearers of the province. In order to make this scheme a success, it is necessary that efficient and well-trained staff should be employed.

	Central Nursery at Amriti.							the silk industry in Bengal. Rupees 8,000 has been asked for in 1913-14 and the balance has been proposed for 1914-15.
Ditto ...	Cross-breeding experiments.	33,300	.....	33,300	9,000	.....	9,000	The scheme is to cross-breed European silk-worms with the Indian races, in order to find out what kind of worms will give the best result.
ulture	For new non-recurring expenditure in the Agricultural Department.	1,00,000	.....	1,00,000	1,00,000	.....	1,00,000	A lump provision has been made for non-recurring expenditure.
	Total Scientific and other Minor Departments.	1,68,300	14,734	1,83,034	1,36,000	9,734	1,45,734	
.—*Stationery and Printing.*								
s office at the Presi-icy establishment.	Allowance to the establishment of the Forms Department.	.....	10,084	10,084	.....	10,000	10,000	This is a proposal to grant an allowance of 33 per cent. to the establishment of the Forms Department for attending office (Jail Press) from morning to dusk in view of the proposed introduction of jail hours to the Forms Branch on its amalgamation with the Jail Press.
Central Jail Press—pplies and Services.	Cost of Europe Stores ...	6,050	.....	6,050	6,050	.....	6,050	The Superintendent of the New Central Jail wants to purchase 2 new printing machines and one ruling machine to cope with the increase of work. Rs. Cost of stores ... ... 5,600 Freight, etc. 450
	Total Stationery and Printing.	6,050	10,084	16,134	6,050	10,000	16,050	

Budget head and head under which ision has been e.	Nature of scheme.	Estimate of ultimate maximum cost.			Estimate of expenditure in 1914-15.			Remarks.
		Non-recurring.	Recurring.	Total.	Non-recurring.	Recurring.	Total.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
rigation—Minor ks and Navigation arge of the Public ks Department.	Works in connection with the Jessore Drainage Division.	2,75,000	.....	2,75,000	20,000	.....	20,000	
	Dredging the entrances of the Bhagirathi and Gorai rivers.	.....	16,000	16,000	.....	16,000	16,000	Rupees 7,000 provided for the Gorai in 1913-14.
	Flood damage repairs ...	4,26,000	.....	4,26,000	2,12,000	.....	2,12,000	This is required to make good the damage done to the embankments by the Damodar flood.
	Total ...	7,01,000	16,000	7,17,000	2,32,000	16,000	2,48,000	
	Provincial share ...	3,50,000	8,000	3,58,000	1,16,000	8,000	1,24,000	
	GRAND TOTAL ...	21,73,225	17,48,612	39,21,837	15,21,540	15,88,001	31,09,541	

[*Sir William Duke.*]

The Hon'ble SIR WILLIAM DUKE said :—

"The detailed features of the Revised and Budget Estimates have, I think, been fully and clearly explained in the Financial Statement and my memorandum which accompanies it, and I shall, therefore, content myself with a very rapid survey of the provincial financial position. Last year our figures were swelled by grants from Imperial Revenues to the amount of nearly a crore and a half, but this year, as the Hon'ble Members will have seen, the Government of India are not in a position to largely subsidise the provinces, and the occasion is therefore the more convenient for examining the financial situation of the Province under its present settlement. Members will have been struck by the size of the estimated provincial balance, on 31st March, 1914, Rs. 3,04,30,000, which is larger than I remember at any previous period; but if they have studied the statement carefully they will have understood that while this large balance does include a very satisfactory increase of our ordinary income, it is still more due to short expenditure, that is to say, to our inability to lay out more rapidly the large special grants received from the Imperial Government in recent years, which now seem to have come to an end for the time being. Our principal heads of revenue are Land Revenue, Stamps and Excise which between them furnish two-thirds of our total income. Land Revenue is a very slowly expanding head and there has been a set-back in the current year owing to floods in some districts. But we hope to make up this next year and to continue the steady, if slow, progress. Stamps show a very satisfactory and steady increase. This head is one of the indices of provincial prosperity, and though sensitive to trade and agricultural fluctuations, it is a source of income on whose steady expansion we can safely rely. Excise is perhaps the most important single head of income inasmuch as it is entirely provincial. The increase in Excise Revenue has been very marked, and I think we may congratulate ourselves that we have obtained it without any violation of temperance principles. Last April, we raised the rate of duty on country spirit and reasonably expected that this would have an adverse effect on license fees. The settlements, however, gave unexpectedly large results, and the combination of the high settlement figures and the increased duty has resulted in an increase of 14 lakhs in our Revised Estimate, while the latest returns available show that there has been a decrease in consumption. We are again raising the duty from the 1st April next year, but we have not thought it safe to count again on such a large accession of revenue. There is clear evidence that we are forcing up the retail price of excise articles and Government are taking their full share of this enhancement in price. The increase of revenue ultimately depends upon the prosperity of the consuming classes, and as prices are forced up and as excisable articles become more and more the luxuries of those who are comparatively well off, so does the revenue become increasingly dependent on the continuance of prosperity. Bad agricultural seasons or periods of industrial depression would substantially check its expansion. It is also necessary to proceed carefully because it would be fatal from all points of view to raise the retail price to the point at which it would be impossible to prevent illicit practices; but I think we may congratulate ourselves that in the current year we have received such a largely-increased revenue from a diminished consumption. The remaining third of our revenue is made up of a large number of receipts of varying importance, and with the exception of Registration and Assessed taxes, which is liable to considerable fluctuation, they are not capable of any very great expansion. Our total revenue has expanded in the last two years and, as I said last year, under the present settlement we hope to count on an expansion of 10 or 11 lakhs a year.

On the expenditure side the increase has very largely outstripped this normal increase of revenue, but any comparison is vitiated by the fact that the expenditure figures include a considerable number of schemes which are financed from the Imperial grants. Our ordinary expenditure, however, is steadily increasing, and it is no easy matter to make the increase keep pace with the slow expansion of the revenue. We are endeavuring, therefore, as far as our finances permit, to place the equipment of all Departments on a

satisfactory basis before we attempt further extensions of our activities. We are providing, for example, for the reorganisation of the Excise Department, for a thorough revision of the Registration Department, for an increase in the pay of the rank and file of the Police Department, and we have taken up the question of increasing the pay of the menials of all Departments. This all involves heavy recurring expenditure; but we feel that it would be unwise to launch out into extensions until we have our existing services properly organised and adequately paid.

As regards non-recurring expenditure, we have drawn up a programme of official buildings to be spread over the next four years which will to some extent remedy the deficiencies of the past, and we are embarking on a scheme of roads to remedy the disadvantages hitherto suffered by an important portion of the Province. This programme will absorb all the money available for public works in the next four years, and, in addition, will require a draft of 40 lakhs on our balances. We have provided so far as we can foresee them for all possible calls upon us and have still reserved a free balance of nearly 26 lakhs. There is, however, always the unforeseen to be reckoned with so that we do not feel that it would be safe further to deplete this reserve which amounts to less than 5 per cent. of our ordinary annual expenditure.

I have said that a considerable portion of our increased expenditure had been financed from the Imperial grants, but it must be remembered that even such expenditure does in most cases in the long run involve further recurring expenditure from Provincial Funds: nor must we overlook the fact that these grants by occupying the energies of the Departments concerned have relieved the Provincial Finance of demands from those Departments for further expansion, but that as soon as the grants are exhausted, if they are not replenished from the same source, these Departments will still insist upon maintaining their course of development and will look to provincial funds to provide the means. The process of exhaustion has been slow as is natural at first, but it is likely to gain in rapidity very much after the first difficulties have been overcome. Upon the whole, while the revised estimate shows an expenditure of 56 lakhs greater than in 1912-13, the estimate for next year is again 110 lakhs greater than the revised. Taking the non-recurring grants, we started in 1912 with Rs. 20,77,000 for Police reorganization and River Police. We have spent Rs. 5,13,000 in two years and have Rs. 15,64,000 left, but we have budgeted for a very considerable increase in the rate of spending next year. For Education we started our settlement with Rs. 20,10,000 and have received Rs. 1,03,00,000 since. We have spent Rs 35,63,000 and have Rs. 87,47,000 still to spend; but here again we anticipate a very much more rapid rate of progression next year. For Sanitation, we started with Rs. 14,86,000 and have since received a further grant of Rs. 20,00,000. We have spent Rs. 9,28,000 and have Rs. 25,58,000 left. Besides these non-recurring grants, we have received outside the settlement recurring grants of Rs. 25,65,000 for Education and of Rs. 5 lakhs for Sanitation. Hitherto these have not been fully worked up to and the savings have been regranted; but in future we anticipate that the grants should be fully utilised and there will be no saving.

Upon the whole, I think that we may claim that the last two years have shown a marked development of provincial institutions, and that while that has been secured mainly by direct assistance from the Imperial Government, yet the progress in our regular income has also been satisfactory and justifies us in looking forward with some confidence to the future."

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 4.

The Hon'ble Mr. Lyon introduced the following heads :—

Revenue—

I—Land-revenue.

[*Mr. Lyon; Mr. Kerr.*]

Expenditure—

3. Land-revenue.
8. Provincial Rates.
18. General Administration.

He said :—

"My Lord,—

The full notes which are given in the Financial Statement leave me very little to say as to the figures under these heads. Hon'ble Members will note that under the revised estimate for Land Revenue Receipts in the current year there has been a falling-off of Rs. 2,60,000 due to suspensions of revenue in the districts of Midnapore and Hooghly. I believe that these suspensions will meet with the approbation of the Members of Council.

Under the Land Revenue Expenditure head there is a notable increase of Rs. 96,000 under the sub-head of Government Estates. This is due to a special grant that is contemplated in the current year to improve these estates. The Board of Revenue has for some years past been pressing for such a grant in order to enable it to carry out some much-needed improvements, and Government have been glad to find it possible to make that grant in the coming year. There is also an increase under the same head, under Survey and Settlement expenditure, which is accounted for by a charge of Rs. 43,000 on account of the Comilla Survey School. The establishment of this school has been undertaken in accordance with repeated recommendations from expert officers, and excellent arrangements have been made for it by Major Hirst, the Director of Surveys. It is hoped that this new departure will prove a success, as special care is being taken to give an adequate training in survey of all descriptions to the various classes of students who attend the school.

Under the head Provincial Rates it will be noticed that the entries in the present budget are reduced to small sums representing general rates levied for the management of private estates, the Public Works Cess which used to figure under this head having been handed over to District Boards.

The fluctuations in the figures under General Administration are due in the main to temporary causes such as the deputation of officers on special duty. The estimate for the current year, however, includes a somewhat larger allotment for services in connection with the establishment of His Excellency the Governor, according to ascertained requirements, and allotments in connection with the proceedings of this Council for the payment of reporters and purchase of books."

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 5.

The Hon'ble Mr. Kerr introduced the following heads :—

Revenue—

IX—Forests.

Expenditure—

11. Forests.

Revenue—

XXI—Scientific and other Minor Departments.

[*Mr. Kerr.*]

Expenditure—

26. Scientific and other Minor Departments (including Agriculture and Veterinary).

He said :—

"My Lord, I have the honour to introduce the budget heads relating to the Forest Department. On this occasion last year I pointed out what a very valuable property the Presidency of Bengal has in its forests, but stated that for various reasons, it was not anticipated that the high profits earned in 1912-13 would be maintained. We accordingly made a cautious estimate for a net profit of a little over 7 lakhs for the year 1913-14. I am glad to say that this estimate has proved unduly pessimistic. Owing to larger sales and better prices for timber and fuel, we now anticipate a gross revenue of 16½ lakhs in the current year, with an expenditure of about 6½ lakhs, leaving us with a net revenue of 10 lakhs, which constitutes a record. For next year we have estimated a gross revenue of 16 lakhs, but we propose to take the opportunity to provide for some urgent wants of the Department, and have consequently provided for a total expenditure of 7¼ lakhs. Our net profit is therefore expected to work out to about 8¾ lakhs.

I turn now to the head "Scientific and other Minor Departments." The revised estimates of receipts for the current year have been raised from Rs. 2,26,000 to Rs. 3,13,000. The increase is almost entirely due to larger demands for quinine which is expected to bring in 2 lakhs as compared with Rs. 1,07,000 provided for in the budget. For 1914-15 receipts from the sale of quinine have been taken at 1½ lakh, and the total receipts under this head have been put at Rs. 2,72,000.

On the expenditure side of the budget, the most important head and the only one with which I propose to deal at any length is that of agriculture. In the current year we provided for an expenditure of Rs. 4,84,000 for the normal requirements of the Department and, in addition, there was the special Imperial grant of 1½ lakh, making a total provision of Rs. 6,34,000. Of this we expect to spend only Rs. 5,17,000. The saving is due to delays in the acquisition of land for the sericultural nursery scheme which I described last year and to the purchase of cattle for the Rangpur Dairy Farm not having proceeded at so rapid a pace as was anticipated. The savings in the Imperial grant, amounting to Rs. 52,000, will not lapse, but have been regranted for next year. The total sanctioned budget estimate of the Agricultural Department for 1914-15 amounts to Rs. 7,07,000, of which Rs. 5,55,000 represents the ordinary expenditure of the Department, Rs 52,000 the regrant of the Imperial grant, and Rs. 1,00,000 a special provincial grant for capital expenditure to improve the equipment of the Department and to provide for various urgent requirements. The increase in the ordinary expenditure is due to the expansion of work in various directions. The Secretary of State has recently sanctioned the appointment of a Second Deputy Director for this Province, and this appointment will render it possible to undertake a wider programme, particularly in demonstration work, for which it has for some time been recognised that the existing staff, working under a single Deputy Director, is quite inadequate. The balance of the Imperial grant will be mainly spent in completing the equipment of the Rangpur Dairy Farm, while the objects on which the provincial grant is to be spent have not yet been finally selected.

A full account of the work of the Agricultural Department was given in the Government Resolution on the subject, which was recently published, and I need not take the Council over the same ground again. I need only say, as regards sericulture, that four large model nurseries for the supply of pure seed free from disease have been constructed and are in working order, two more are under construction, while two other projects have been approved and land is being acquired for them. The mulberry census of the silk-growing districts will shortly be completed, and we shall then be in a position to draw up a complete programme and estimate for the model nursery scheme.

[*Mr. Kerr.*]

The Rangpur Dairy Farm has made considerable progress, but is not yet in full working order, owing, mainly, to difficulty and delay in procuring suitable cattle. It was only in November that actual possession was obtained of the land. There is now a herd of 51 cows on the farm, and there is keen competition for all the milk that can be supplied.

The investigation of the ufra disease of rice continued to receive the attention of the Economic Botanist, and inquiries have also been made into the subject by Dr. Butler of Pusa, the Imperial Mycologist, who published a valuable monograph on the disease a few months ago. The worm which causes the disease has been definitely identified, and it is hoped that the study of its life history, which is now being carried out, will lead to the discovery of practical measures for combating the pest. Meanwhile, a number of experiments carried out by the Economic Botanist have proved successful, in that the crops treated were not attacked by the disease, though of course the result of one year's experiments are not conclusive, since the disease might not have occurred even if no remedial measures had been undertaken. It has, however, been established more or less definitely that the disease occurs mainly in paddy sown broadcast on lowlands and that transplanted paddy is comparatively immune from attack.

The substitution of a crop of aus paddy or jute followed by transplanted aman for the usual mixture of aus and broad-cast aman has yielded good results. It is reported that the cultivators in many places already appreciate the importance of burning the stubble and ploughing the soil on infected plots, and arrangements have been made for systematic work on these lines.

No specific provision has been made in the budget for the jute forecast, though this business occupies a large part of the time of the Director and his staff. It was recently represented to Government by the Jute Forecasts Committee of the Chamber of Commerce that the trade considered the existing arrangements for the check of the panchayats' returns, on which the forecast is based, to be inadequate. It was understood that the trade would be willing to contribute towards the cost of a more detailed check than is at present possible, and a scheme was drawn up accordingly and published for consideration. Government have not yet received the views of the trade on the subject, but it is observed that there is a tendency in some quarters to regard it as undignified on the part of Government to accept any contribution from the trade for the purpose of improving the forecast. In regard to this, I would merely point out that those members of the trade who have asked for a special staff to be put on outside the ordinary machinery at the disposal of Government, for the improvement of the statistics of a particular crop, are asking for something which is given in no other province in India. The members of this Council, who have occasion to study the budget, are well aware that the funds at the disposal of Government are strictly limited and how difficult it is to find funds for the urgent and insistent requirements for different parts of the province. In these circumstances, it would be impossible, as well as inequitable, for Government to devote any considerable share of the ordinary revenue of the country to a scheme for the improvement of statistics relating to a single industry, however important. The expenditure upon any exclusive and costly measures for the improvement of jute statistics cannot therefore be thrown upon the general taxpayer. Meanwhile, Government are fairly justified in claiming that the collection of statistics through panchayats, which recent developments of the panchayati system have rendered possible, has effected a very considerable improvement in the forecast, and the development of this system will continue to receive careful attention, so far as funds and staff permit, whatever action may be taken in regard to the special scheme which has been drawn up at the request of the trade.

I need not take the Council in detail through the other sub-heads of this portion of the budget. They are, I think, sufficiently explained in the draft Financial Statement, which is in the hands of Hon'ble Members. If any further information is desired on any point before the meeting next week, I shall be very glad to supply it."

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 6.

The Hon'ble MR. MOBERLY introduced the following heads :—

Revenue—

V—Excise.

Expenditure—

7. Excise.

He said :—

"My Lord, I have the honour to introduce the budget heads which relate to Excise.

The actual receipts in 1912-13 amounted to Rs. 1,37,59,045 and came within a lakh of the original estimate. The revised estimate had been reduced to 135 lakhs on the basis of ten months' actuals. But a large increase in the last two months of the year, due mainly to the facts, first, that the settlements in the districts of Eastern Bengal, when two months' advance license fees are deposited, were held later than in 1911-12, and, second, that, contrary to expectation, higher license fees were obtained, caused these figures to be exceeded by more than 2½ lakhs.

The sanctioned estimate for the current year was Rs. 1,38,55,000. At the time when this estimate was framed it was anticipated that the actuals for 1912-13 would only amount to 135 lakhs. It was known that the rate of duty on country spirit and ganja would be enhanced from 1st April, 1913, but it was not certain what the effect of the enhancement would be. It was, however, naturally anticipated that there would be some decrease in license fees which would be rather more than counterbalanced by an increase in the receipts from duty. The budget estimate for the current year accordingly provided for increases, as compared with the revised estimates, for 1912-13, of Rs. 2,56,000 and Rs. 30,000, respectively, under the heads Country Spirit and Ganja. Increases of Rs. 20,000 under the head of Tari and of Rs. 40,000 under the head Gain on Sale-proceeds of Excise Opium were budgeted for in expectation of a normal expansion of revenue. The other heads were left unchanged.

Contrary to expectation, the settlements which were held in February and March 1912-13 resulted in an enhancement of license fees to the extent of more than 8 lakhs. Opium, country spirit and ganja contributed most largely in the order named. It became apparent at the beginning of the current year that the estimate would be largely exceeded.

This increased taxation caused a general rise in the retail price of the principal intoxicants and this again reacted upon consumption. Excluding the three districts of the Chittagong Division, in which the substitution of the system of contract supply for the outstill system, with effect from the 1st April, 1913, renders accurate comparison impossible; the figures for country spirit for the first nine months show an increase of Rs. 4,30,000 in revenue and a decrease of 33,922 proof gallons in consumption as compared with the corresponding period of 1912-13. The revenue from ganja increased during the same period by Rs. 4,40,000, whilst consumption decreased by 88 maunds 13 seers. The revenue from opium increased by Rs. 2,66,000, and though the consumption increased by 6 maunds 12 seers, the rate of increase was considerably slower than in the preceding year when the total increase was more than 29 maunds, and since the 1st quarter there has only been an increase of 8 seers.

The actuals for the first ten months of the current year exceeded those of the corresponding period of 1912-13 by Rs. 13,84,000, and, after making allowance for the unusually heavy receipts in February and March of last year, the revised estimate for the current year has been put at 152 lakhs. Ganja, country spirit and opium account for almost the whole of the increase; the

[*Mr. Moberly; Mr. Stephenson; Nawab Syed Shams-ul-Huda.*]

decrease of Rs. 40,000 under the head Gain on Sale-proceeds of Excise Opium is due to the fact that the increase in the consumption of opium has been less than was anticipated when the original estimate was framed.

In framing the estimate for 1914-15 two factors introduce an element of uncertainty. The first is that the duty on country spirit will again be increased from 1st April in most of the districts of the Burdwan, Presidency, Dacca and Rajshahi Divisions. In the Burdwan and Presidency Divisions the object of this measure is to force up prices, which (except in Calcutta) were little affected by the increase of duty during the current year, with the object of checking consumption; in the Dacca and Rajshahi Divisions, where prices rose considerably, the object is mainly to transfer to the fixed head of Duty revenue which would otherwise have contributed to swell the fluctuating head of license fees to an undesirable extent. The second factor is that it has been decided to curtail the hours during which retail shops may be open for the sale of intoxicants. From 1st April no such shop may be opened before 8 A.M. in the hot and 10 A.M. in the cold weather and all drug shops will be closed at sunset. Liquor shops will also be closed at sunset in purely rural areas, but in urban and industrial areas no change will be made from the present hours, as consumers of the labouring classes are often unable to obtain supplies of stimulants until comparatively late in the evening. It is difficult to forecast the precise effect of these changes upon consumption.

The estimate for 1914-15 has accordingly been framed so as to give a moderate increase of 3 lakhs over the revised estimate for the current year. The estimated increase from country spirit is Rs. 1,85,000 and from ganja, Rs. 65,000. Pachwai has been put at about Rs. 10,000 in advance of the actuals in 1912-13. The sale-proceeds of excise opium have been reduced by Rs. 15,000 as compared with the revised estimates of the current year, and if consumption remains stationary, as in the 2nd and 3rd quarters of the current year, the estimate will not be exceeded. No change from the revised estimate of the current year has been made under other heads.

Turning to expenditure the decrease in the present year's revised estimate is due to the fact that the sum of half a lakh provided for the reorganization of the department has lapsed, as the scheme has not yet been sanctioned by the Secretary of State. The increase of 2½ lakhs in the budget estimate for 1914-15 is made up of 1½ lakh for the reorganization scheme ½ a lakh for the provision of departmental quarters as a first instalment of the sum required to provide residences for officers who have to serve in out-of-the-way places where suitable house accommodation is not available, and half a lakh as a first instalment towards the provision of the launches and boats which are needed for touring and preventive work in the districts of Eastern Bengal."

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 7.

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON introduced the following heads :—

Expenditure—

6. Stamps.
10. Assessed Taxes.

He said :—

"My Lord, I have the honour to introduce the heads of expenditure under 6—Stamps and 10—Assessed Taxes.

These heads are fully explained in the amended Draft Financial Statement, and I have nothing further to add in their regard."

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 8.

The Hon'ble NAWAB SYED SHAMS-UL-HUDA introduced the following head :—

Expenditure—

19A. Courts of law.

[*Nawab Syed Shams-ul-Huda; Sir William Duke.*]

He said :—

"My Lord, I rise to introduce the figures relating to Courts of Law. The noticeable features on the expenditure side may be summarised as follows :—

The total budget estimate for 1913-14 was Rs. 96,10,000, but the revised estimate has been raised to Rs. 99,53,000 with reference to the increased charges for the first nine months of the year, owing, chiefly, to the additional expenditure on law charges and fees to counsel in Government litigation.

The total estimate for the next financial year has been fixed at Rs. 99,53,000. This includes a provision of Rs. 53,148 for an Additional Judge of the Calcutta High Court and his establishment. Provisions have also been made for a new Inspector of Judicial offices. An additional provision of Rs. 70,000 has further been made on account of fees to pleaders in criminal cases. Additional ministerial establishment for the new Police Courts in the northern and southern sections of the town have also been provided for. The revision of the bailiffs' establishment of the Calcutta Small Cause Court has recently been sanctioned by Government and the necessary provision has been included in the estimates for 1914-15.

Under the head Mufassal Establishment, provision has been made for three Assistant Government Pleaders, viz., one for Sirajganj, one for Madaripur and one for Brahmanbaria. Increased provisions have also been made for the additional Sub-Judges and the new scale of munsifs recently sanctioned by the Secretary of State. There also exists a lump provision for the increase of pay of the last grade of Munsifs from Rs. 200 to Rs. 250 a month.

The grant for the next year for residences of Judicial officers has been fixed at Rs. 50,000. With this amount it is proposed, with the concurrence of the High Court, to take up during the next year the construction of residences for the District Judge of Bakarganj and the Munsif of Pingna, which are the most important of residential projects. Rupees 1,50,000 has been allotted to Civil Courts, and it is proposed to distribute this amount among several urgent projects, the most important of which are the construction of a double munsifi at Bhola, the construction of a quadruple munsifi at Netrakona and the construction of a single munsifi at Munshiganj."

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 9.

The Hon'ble SIR WILLIAM DUKE introduced the following heads :—

Revenue—

XVII—Police.

Expenditure—

20. Police.

Revenue—

XVIB—Jails.

Expenditure—

19B. Jails.

He said :—

"The constitution of the Calcutta Police has not yet been brought into full accord with the principles of organization laid down by the Police Commission of 1902-03. The ordinary reserve required to supply vacancies caused by casualties is short of the prescribed scale. Besides, there is not a fully-constituted headquarters force. The want has been partly supplied by the newly-constituted civil armed police, but there is no adequate provision for the supply of escorts. The necessity of supplying escorts from the ordinary

[*Sir William Duke.*]

reserve adds to the difficulty of granting leave to applicants and causes much discontent, which is evidenced by frequent resignations. It is hoped that with the reserve at its proper strength, this condition will be remedied. A grant was made last year for the purpose but it was not fully utilized.

The Calcutta Police has at present no school of its own for the training of recruits and officers. Formerly, the Bengal Police used to supply the demands of the Calcutta Police, but since the reconstitution of the province, the police schools are barely sufficient for the requirements of the provincial police and Calcutta must make its own arrangements for the training of its recruits. It is hoped that with the establishment of a training school in Calcutta there will be a considerable improvement in the efficiency of the rank and file.

General Explanation.—In the Province of Eastern Bengal and Assam the Secretary of State had sanctioned a thorough reorganization of the Police, the total amount of recurring charges involved being Rs. 5,19,000. Such schemes require a long time to bring into effect and this has been introduced gradually as funds permitted. The provision which is made for next year will complete it so far as recurring expenditure is concerned. The scheme, however, also involved a great deal of non-recurring expenditure on buildings and other objects and much of this remains to be undertaken. In addition, new wants are springing up in all directions, and the organization and equipment of the Police all over the Province are still susceptible of much improvement in order to bring it into line with the changing and developing conditions of the country. The Inspector-General of Police proposed a lump provision of Rs. 27,56,700 for 81 new schemes pending sanction of Government. Financial exigencies compelled that this should be considerably curtailed, but a lump provision of Rs. 11,16,000 has been made for 30 new projects of the most pressing nature, the principal items of which are —

(1) *Reorganization of the Subordinate Police in the Eastern Bengal Districts—Rs. 4,04,855.*

Rupees 3,13,385 of this is non-recurring and Rs. 91,470 is recurring. This completes the scheme.

(2) *Reorganization of the River Police in the Eastern Bengal Districts—Rs. 5,21,775.*

Rupees 4,50,263 of this is non-recurring and Rs. 71,512, recurring. This completes the original scheme which amounted to Rs. 3,12,000 recurring. Rupees 4,49,555 was provided for the scheme in the Budget of 1913-14.

Of the remaining items, the following are the most important :—

(1) *Revision of the Superior Police Cadre—Rs. 33,600.*

The system of posting an additional Superintendent in the heavier districts tried in the Eastern Bengal having worked satisfactorily, it has, with the sanction of the Government of India, been extended temporarily for two years in the districts of the 24-Parganas and Midnapore. The provision represents the cost of the two additional Superintendents and the appointment of Assistant and Deputy Superintendents which the proposal will involve when sanction is received to the retention of these appointments

(2) *Regrading of Sub-Inspectors and Head Constables in Eastern Bengal Districts—Rs. 37,800.*

There is a scale fixed for the grading of Sub-Inspectors and Head Constables which provides for a larger number of officers in the higher grades than are at present employed. The numbers of additional Sub-Inspectors and Head Constables recruited annually towards the completion of the reorganization scheme are largely employed in the lowest grade with the result that the numbers in the lower grades are disproportionately large. It is therefore necessary gradually to raise the number in the higher grades within

[*Sir William Duke.*]

the limits of the sanctioned scale by corresponding reduction in the lower grades so as to obviate block of promotion.

(3) *Improvement of the Pay and Prospects of Constables and Head Constables—Rs. 4,75,000.*

The present rate of pay of constables was fixed on the recommendation of the Police Commission of 1902-03, and more than ten years have now elapsed during which we have had sufficient experience to test its adequacy. It may have been sufficient at the time, but owing to the increased cost of living it is no longer so, and satisfactory men cannot be recruited or retained at the present pay. It is proposed to raise the pay of the lowest grade of constable to Rs. 10 and the others in proportion, with some increase to head constables also. These proposals which have been submitted for consideration and orders to the Government of India are the result of experience gained. Rupees 4,75,000 has been budgeted for the purpose. The grant of a living wage to the constable seemed to Government to be a matter of the first urgency, although smaller reforms also of great importance have had to be postponed to permit of it.

(4) *Purchase of Mymensingh Hospital—Rs. 60,000.*

This is required for the extension of the Sadar police-station, the accommodation of which is inadequate.

(5) *Increase of Cadre of Deputy Superintendents of Police—Rs. 17,100.*

With a view to improve the Police administration, the principle has been accepted of placing an officer of gazetted rank in charge of the more important of the subdivisions in Bengal, and it is therefore proposed to make addition to the cadre of Deputy Superintendents as funds are available. As a step to this end, a provision of Rs. 17,100 has been made during the next financial year.

(6) *Raising the Conveyance Allowance of Subordinate Police Officers—Rs. 42,900.*

The rate of horse allowance fixed for the Bengal Police is Rs. 15 a month. Complaints are universal as to the impossibility of keeping a pony and syce at this figure. Local officers are unanimous on the subject, while the initial pay of Rs. 50, which a sub-inspector gets, does not permit him to meet the extra cost. It is therefore proposed to give Rs. 20 for horse allowance, except in the district of the 24-Parganas and the towns of Howrah, Dacca and Narayanganj, where somewhat more is required.

(7) *Reorganization of the Military Police—Rs. 79,197.*

A proposal for the withdrawal of the two companies of Indian infantry at present stationed at Buxa in the Jalpaiguri district is under the consideration of the Government of India in the Army Department. The object of keeping the troops at Buxa was the protection of the Bhutan frontier. In the event of the withdrawal being ultimately sanctioned, the Local Government will have to take over the post and garrison it with one company of Military Police, which is therefore provided for.

(8) *Settling of Karwal Nuts of the Rajshahi Division—Rs. 26,600.*

The first step we have taken under the Criminal Tribes Act is with respect to the Karwal Nuts of the Rajshahi Division by getting them registered under the Act. The reclamation of criminal tribes by non-official philanthropic agency seems to have better chances of success than Government agency has ever attained. If we can get the tribes settled, we shall have done much to cope with crime in the Rajshahi Division. Negotiations with Brigadier Robertson who manages the criminal work of the Salvation

[*Sir William Duke; Mr. Samman.*]

Army have given us a rough idea of the amount necessary for buildings and the recurring grant required by the Salvation Army if they are to undertake the work. A site has been selected at Saidpur for the purpose, and provision has also been made in the Budget, subject to the approval, by the Government of India, of the scheme for settling the tribe.

(9) *Appointment of a Fourth-range Deputy Inspector-General—Rs. 25,000.*

As a result of the recent decentralization of work and the enhancement of the powers of the Deputy Inspectors-General, the necessity has been represented of dividing the charge of the Deputy Inspector-General of the Presidency Range, which includes the Presidency and Burdwan Divisions, and to place each of these under a separate officer of that rank. The proposal is at present under examination by Government.

Jails.

The main items of the new expenditure are as follows :—

(1) *Revision of the Warder Establishment—Rs. 40,000.*

At present two different scales of pay obtain in the Presidency of Bengal—men in Eastern Bengal drawing pay at the rates sanctioned for the late Eastern Bengal and Assam Government, and those in the Presidency and Burdwan Divisions and the district of Darjeeling drawing pay as in old Bengal. It is proposed to assimilate the different scales and to improve the general condition of the warder service by an increase in their number and an improvement in their pay similar to that proposed for the police and by granting certain other concessions. The scheme involves an annual recurring expenditure of about Rs. 64,000. Part provision has been made, as sanction of the Secretary of State is not likely to be obtained by the beginning of the financial year 1914-15.

(2) *Purchase of new machinery for the Dacca Central Jail—Rs. 10,000.*

The press at the Dacca Central Jail is being abolished, and to replace the industry it is proposed to start a blanket factory with plant and machinery like the one at the Bhagalpur Central Jail in the Province of Bihar and Orissa at an estimated cost of about Rs. 16,000. Rupees 10,000 has been budgeted, and the balance will come out of the provision for Jail manufactures."

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 10.

In the unavoidable absence of the Hon'ble Mr. Hornell, the Hon'ble Mr. Samman (with the permission of the President) read out Mr. Hornell's speech introducing the following heads :—

Revenue—

XIX—Education.

Expenditure—

22. Education.

"My Lord,

1. I have the honour to introduce the heads of the Financial Statement which deal with Education, XIX—Revenue and 22—Expenditure.

2. Although a reference to the Revenue side of the Financial Statement may perhaps be of comparatively little interest, it is still satisfactory to note a distinct upward tendency in the record of income derived under this head in successive budgets. This to my mind is a healthy and a hopeful sign indicating, as it does, a growing appreciation of the need and importance of education. For there is still, I think, something in the old saying that those advantages are most prized that are paid for.

[*Mr. Samman.*]

3. On the Expenditure side of the Education budget in prospect interest will centre chiefly around the assignments which the Government of India made in the years 1911-12, 1912-13 and 1913-14. The Financial Statement before us contains two new allotments of Imperial grants for education. One is a recurring grant of Rs. 1,50,000, of which intimation has just been received from the Government of India. The other is a grant of Rs. 30,000 for female education, made by the Government of India a few months ago to supplement the grants for the improvement and expansion of the education of Indian girls and women included in the lump grants of Rs. 9,25,000 and Rs. 13,20,000 which were placed at the disposal of the Local Government last year and the year before. The total grant for female education thus amounts to the sum of Rs. 2,44,000: to this I shall revert.

4. I shall now proceed to discuss the various sums provided in lump in the statement, and it will facilitate matters if I refer to them in the order in which they appear in the table.

5. The first item in the list is a provision of Rs. 5,11,000, which represents the sum likely to be spent out of the unexpended balance of the non-recurring Imperial grants made in 1911-12. The allotment is earmarked for specific schemes which are in process of completion.

6. The next item in the Financial Statement is the provision of Rs. 11,72,000. This is made up of the recurring Imperial grant of Rs. 9,25,000 *plus* Rs. 2,47,000 which represents the unexpended portion of the previous year's grant which was utilised on capital objects. The sum of Rs. 2,47,000 is therefore non-recurring. This item relates to the improvement of popular education—a term which has been used to include elementary education, female education, hostels, technical and European education. The total sum granted for expenditure under these heads amounted to Rs. 9,65,000, but of this sum Rs. 40,000 is specially earmarked for the education of the poorer classes of the domiciled community in the city of Calcutta, and this sum has been included under the head of Grant-in-aid in the Financial Statement. The general scheme of the distribution and utilisation of this grant was set forth in the able and lucid statement made by my predecessor in office in introducing the Education budget of the current financial year. It only remains for me to narrate in some detail what progress has been made in giving effect to the schemes already delineated, and to indicate generally the line of advance which has been made possible by the additional grants communicated by the Imperial Government towards the close of the last financial year, viz., the non-recurring grant of Rs. 75 lakhs and the recurring grant of Rs. 13,20,000.

7. It will be convenient to deal with the grant of Rs. 9,25,000 in conjunction with that of Rs. 13,20,000. Before doing so I would invite attention to the fact that the latter grant includes a provision of 5 lakhs for the Dacca University, which we may leave out of account in the present connection. The sum available for other branches of education is therefore Rs. 8,20,000. The following table will shew the disposition of these two grants, which are intended for recurring expenditure, in terms of the sanctioning order of the Government of India :—

		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
I.	Elementary education of Indian boys ...	6,00,000	3,65,000	9,65,000
II.	Education of girls ...	1,07,000	1,07,000	2,14,000
III.	Technical and special education ...	34,000	37,000	71,000
IV.	European education ...	50,000	60,000	1,10,000
V.	Hostels	1,32,000	Nil	1,32,000
VI.	Manual instruction ...	Nil	25,000	25,000
VII.	Secondary education...	Nil	2,26,000	2,26,000
VIII.	Unallotted balance ...	2,000	Nil	2,000
	Total ..	9,25,000	8,20,000	17,45,000

[*Mr. Samman.*]

8. The scheme for the utilisation of the provision of Rs. 6,00,000 for elementary education was clearly described by Mr. Küchler last year, and I shall therefore confine myself to the consideration of the new grant of Rs. 3,65,000. It was not found practicable to utilise this allotment on schemes of a recurring nature during the current year and, following the precedent of the year 1912-13, the grant was employed in financing capital schemes relating to primary education.

9. The total immediate requirements of the year under this head are estimated to amount to Rs. 7,75,963, as described below :—

	Rs.
For the construction of new Board primary schools	4,92,065
For the construction of Guru-training school buildings	13,898
For new buildings of aided primary schools ...	1,50,000
" equipment of primary schools	1,00,000
" reconstruction and repair of Guru-training schools	20,000
Total ...	7,75,963

10. Of this sum, Rs. 3,65,000 will be borne against the allotment under consideration, and the balance will be met from the Imperial grant for non-recurring expenditure on primary education included in the sum of Rs. 24,80,000, which will be dealt with later.

11. In future years it is proposed to utilise the grants in—

	Rs.
(*a*) further increasing the pay of trained teachers in primary schools	67,248
(*b*) maintenance of new Board primary schools ...	1,07,760
(*c*) inaugurating a new system of training primary school teachers involving (1) higher salaries for the staff of training schools and (2) enhanced stipends for teachers under training	1,63,520
(*d*) the establishment of schools in backward localities	6,000
(*e*) grants for specifically Muhammadan education	20,000

12. In arranging the general plan for the utilization of this grant due regard has been paid to the general principles enunciated by the Government of India in recent communications to Local Governments, which broadly and briefly resolve themselves into—

(1) expansion of the system of primary education,

(2) encouragement of improved methods of teaching, and

(3) enhanced salaries for teachers.

While laying down these general principles, the Government of India recognized that, in regard to primary education, the conditions varied greatly in different provinces. In the old Province of Bengal, for instance, where there is already some sort of primary school for a little over every three square miles of the total area of the province the multiplication of schools may very well be not so urgent a problem as the increase in the attendance at and the improvement of the teaching in existing schools. In some parts of India at the present time no teacher in a primary school gets less than Rs. 12 a month. In Burma all the conditions are different and monastic schools are an important feature of the organization and so on. Different problems again present themselves when board schools and aided schools, respectively, are the basis of the system of primary education. Nor must it be supposed

that the policy laid down in these general terms for the immediate future limits the aspirations of the Government of India or the Local Government. Indeed, the Government of India hope that the day is not far distant when teachers in primary schools will receive considerably higher remuneration, when all teachers will be trained and it will in consequence be possible to give them greater scope for initiative and originality. The proposals for the distribution of the grant of Rs. 3,65,000, therefore, are framed to follow such lines as are justified by the peculiar conditions of Bengal at the present time. Reverting to the first of the selected heads of expenditure, *viz.*, increase of salaries of teachers of primary schools, the average amount of money drawn by an aided primary school pandit before the grants of 1913-1914 were made available was Rs. 7 and of this about Rs. 5 came from fees. It has now been raised to Rs. 10 in the case of a trained teacher and to Rs. 8 in the case of an untrained Guru. In consideration of other urgent demands on the present allotment it is not practicable to devote more than Rs. 67,248 to increasing the pay of trained Gurus; this sum will allow of an increase of Re. 1 over and above the Rs. 3 given last year. Our programme of improvement must touch the problem at all points, but our first consideration must be the trained teacher.

13. With regard to the provision for the maintenance of boards schools, it may be explained that it is expected that 608 new board schools will have been constructed by the end of the year in Eastern Bengal districts and 290 schools are scheduled for Western Bengal districts The cost of maintaining these institutions at Rs. 10 a month each will amount to Rs. 1,07,760 per annum.

14. The question of the training of primary school teachers is of paramount importance. Up to date two separate systems of training have obtained in Western and Eastern Bengal. The results of these systems have been on the whole ineffectual; and it is time to consider their reorganization.

15. A detailed scheme of improvement has been worked out on the following general lines :—

(*a*) The provision of an improved staff for all Guru-training schools capable of housing such a staff and of working on superior lines. The number of these schools will be 55 in all: 10 in Eastern Bengal and 45 in Western Bengal. This will involve a total recurring yearly expenditure of Rs. 1,32,000 on staff alone.

The present provision in the budget is Rs 18,480 and the net amount to be debited for staff to Imperial grants is Rs. 83,520. It will take some time before this expenditure is actually in operation, as the best available men have to be selected and the present incumbents provided for elsewhere. By the end of this calendar year it should be possible to pay out the bulk of the increased grants, but many years must necessarily elapse before really suitable buildings are ready for all the remaining Guru schools of the Presidency (there being some 30 more schools in East Bengal and 33, in West Bengal); and for the increased recurring charges consequent upon new buildings and improved staff, we must of necessity look to the Government of India.

(*b*) The next item under this head is the amount necessary for increased stipends to Gurus in training. Rates have continued to rise steadily in the past five years until Inspectors consider a minimum stipend of Rs. 9—10 a month to be essential. It must be remembered that the Guru comes from a school where he may be earning Rs. 4 with fees in addition (in all about Rs 8) and his abode may be comfortably fixed. He may get presents of food and he probably also makes a little out of cultivation.

Obviously, if he can go to a training school only at considerable financial loss to himself, he goes there unwillingly and remains there as it were under

[*Mr. Samman.*]

protest more specially in the absence of any real prospect of adding substantially to his earning capacity by being trained. The number of existing sanctioned stipends is 2,028 and to this must be added the number of extra stipends needed for 10 new Guru schools now being constructed in East Bengal. The total is thus 2,228 and the amount required for these stipends at the rate of Rs. 10 will be about Rs. 2,70,000. Of this sum we have already in our provincial budget Rs. 1,90,000; the total additional cost will be Rs. 60,000. This figure is not an ultimate figure, but it will meet our requirements for some time to come. The figure 2,028 represents the number of stipend-holders for whom accommodation is provided. All these stipends are not taken up as yet.

16. The proposals enunciated above amount to —

	Rs.
(1) Increase of pay of teachers	67,246
(2) Board schools' maintenance	1,07,760
(3) Guru school staff	83,520
(4) Gurus' stipends	80,000
Total ...	3,38,528

It remains to consider the disposal of the balance of the grant of Rs. 3,65,000.

17. In communicating the assignment of the recent Imperial grants for elementary education, the Government of India adverted to the desirability of utilising part of the grant for the purpose of reducing fees in elementary schools and for providing free education in schools in backward areas, and it may be asked to what extent effect has been given to the line of action indicated.

18. It may be stated at once that very little has as yet been done in this direction. This may seem somewhat disappointing, but I would explain that the Government of India's suggestion has not been ignored. An investigation into existing conditions shows that roughly one-third of the boys at school in East Bengal and one-tenth of those in Western Bengal are reading practically free. In view of more pressing claims in other directions it has been decided that the best way of giving effect to the wishes of the Government of India would be to devote such funds as are available after the more urgent reforms have been accomplished to the establishment of schools in backward localities.

19. Schools cannot exist without teachers and, in a special sense in this Presidency, a primary school teacher is a primary school teacher; obviously then the first call on any scheme for the expansion and improvement of primary education was to improve the remuneration of the teachers. A definite step has been taken in this direction by allotting a considerable proportion of the total Imperial grant for elementary education to increasing the pay of teachers. Much more is still required, and there are other and hardly less important claims. With regard to the establishment of schools in backward areas, I am glad to say that something, though comparatively little, is being done.

20. It is proposed during the next year to allot Rs. 30,000 out of the Imperial non-recurring grant of 10 lakhs for elementary education, to which I shall refer later, to the establishment of schools in backward localities; and in these schools, for the upkeep of which Rs. 6,000 will for the present be reserved out of the recurring grant of Rs. 3,65,000, no fees will be charged.

21. With regard to the share of the grant which will be devoted specifically to Muhammadan education, I may say that the teachers of maktabs will participate with the Pathashala Gurus in the benefit of the grants allocated for increasing the pay of trained and untrained teachers and, in

addition, a sum of Rs. 20,000 will be available for the assistance of Muhammadan education generally.

22. We shall now pass on to the grant available for female education, viz., Rs. 2,44,000. Last year Mr. Küchler made certain proposals for the utilisation of the first grant of Rs. 1,07,000. These proposals have been generally approved by Government and expenditure is being and will be incurred accordingly. With the additional grant of Rs. 1,37,000 subsequently communicated, it will be possible to make a still further advance, and for convenience sake, I propose to lay before the Council a comprehensive scheme of expenditure for the whole sum of Rs. 2,44,000—

	Rs.
For strengthening the female inspecting agency ...	32,435
For the training of teachers	58,500
For additional scholarships	21,000
Total ...	1,11,935

Grants-in-aid—	
For zanana education	11,700
" high schools for girls	25,400
" middle " "	29,600
" primary " "	36,000
" the teaching of needlework and instruction in Kindergarten methods	6,720
" Muhammadan girls' schools	10,000
Reserve	13,115
Total ...	2,44,000

23. Female education, I am glad to say, received a measure of assistance which is more or less commensurate with its most immediate needs. Progress has been slow and must necessarily be slow, but with the funds now at our disposal and the interest, which is quickly awakening on all sides in the education of Indian girls and women, a very appreciable advance ought to and will be made during the next few years.

24. The scheme of expenditure outlined above calls for little in the way of explanation. It is proposed for the present to appoint five additional Assistant Inspectresses of Schools, including a special Assistant Inspectress for Calcutta and an Assistant Inspectress for zanana work and Muhammadan education in the mufassal for the Presidency and Burdwan Divisions. These appointments will be made shortly. In this connection it will be interesting to note that Government will be shortly addressed on the subject of providing certain concessions and facilities for the female inspecting staff. The lot of these ladies under present circumstances is, I am afraid, not a pleasant one. They are obliged to travel in all seasons and under trying conditions, and it is proposed to alleviate their difficulties by the provision of proper accommodation, suitable escorts and other concessions such as special rates of travelling allowances. The cost of the proposals in contemplation will be met from the amount held in reserve.

25. One of the most important features of the scheme of distribution of this grant is the provision of a good training college for women teachers in Calcutta. The scheme is yet in process of development, but the main purpose of the proposed institution is to supplement the work which is now being done by the Missionary institutions, more especially in the direction of training teachers, both those who will teach through the medium of the vernacular and those who will teach through the medium of English for middle and high schools.

26. The provision under the head of scholarships will go some way towards supplementing our efforts in other directions to promote and

encourage the education of Indian girls and women. It may be explained that the provision of these special scholarships will not involve the closing to girls of those general scholarships which are open to them in competition with boys.

27. It will be observed that Rs. 10,000 has been specifically set aside for Muhammadan girls' schools. It would, however, be quite wrong to suppose that this is the only portion of the grant in which this section of the community will share. The schools which we are establishing and assisting are for all, including Muhammadans; and Muhammadan girls are now beginning to resort to them in increasing numbers. There are some Moslems who prefer that their girls should go to specifically Muhammadan schools, and the object of allotting this portion of the grant to the purpose above referred to is to improve and expand specifically Muhammadan girls' schools. It is not, however, regarded as practicable that all or anything like all the demands of the Muhammadans in this direction could ever be met by these schools.

28. With regard to the grants for technical and special schools, I need only repeat that the allotment will be devoted partly to non-recurring expenditure, *e.g.*, equipment and improvement of workshops, and partly to schemes which involve recurring expenditure. The previous year's grant of Rs. 34,000 is fully utilised, and expenditure is being incurred out of the new grant of Rs. 37,000, as it becomes necessary or desirable.

29. Under the head European Education, we have a total Imperial grant of Rs. 1,10,000, excluding the grant of Rs. 40,000 for the education of the poorer classes of the domiciled community in the city of Calcutta, the principles of the distribution of which were clearly explained in Mr. Kuchler's speech last year. The proposals which have been submitted to Government for the allotment of this grant have been based on the principle that grants should be made to schools in such measure as would relieve the school authorities (wholly in the case of elementary schools and in part in the case of schools of a higher grade) of the cost incurred by them in maintaining an adequate and efficient staff and thereby enable them not only to offer reasonable salaries to their teachers but also to extend and improve the scope of their work. The sum available falls far short of the amount actually required for the purpose and it has been possible to suggest the admission of only a small number of selected institutions to the benefit of the scheme. A further sum of Rs. 50,000 is urgently required to give effect to the scheme in its entirety. The proposed distribution provides for the participation of railway schools in the scheme.

30. With regard to the provision of Rs. 1,32,000 for recurring expenditure on hostels, it may be explained that the scheme referred to by Mr. Küchler in the course of his speech last year was subjected to some considerable modification, a process which resulted in the postponement of proposals during the current year in which the allotment has been largely devoted to capital expenditure. It is proposed to utilize the grant during the year 1914-15 partly for non-recurring expenditure and partly to finance the improvement of the working of hostels attached to colleges and schools. The bulk of the money will be devoted to the latter purpose.

31. The recurring grant for manual instruction, Rs. 25,000, will not be spent this year but it is not to be imagined that the money is lost to us. The money will be regranted when necessary. The question of manual training needs to be very carefully and wisely planned and the matter is receiving due attention. This allotment, it may be explained, is intended for Indian schools only.

32. The current year's grant for secondary education which amounts to Rs. 2,26,000 will be utilized on capital projects during the year. This course was necessary pending the completion of the investigation into the actual conditions of secondary schools in the Presidency. The disposal of this grant is being dealt with in conjunction with the previous grant of

Rs. 1,50,000 which was specifically sanctioned for the improvement of secondary aided English schools with the object of enabling school authorities to maintain a staff in accordance with the requirements accepted in the proposals for the improvement of secondary education which prescribed a minimum expenditure of Rs. 540 a month for high schools and Rs. 145 a month for middle English schools. The grant of Rs. 2,26,000 has not been limited to aided schools and will therefore, in accordance with the general principles laid down by the Government of India, be available for all classes of secondary schools including Government institutions. The requirements of each school will have to be considered individually and it is hoped that a full scheme of distribution will be ready before very long.

33. The grant of Rs. 1,50,000 referred to above was distributed among the five divisions of Bengal as under :—

				Rs.
Presidency Division	...	..	...	40,000
Burdwan ditto	...	..	...	35,000
Dacca ditto	...	...	...	30,000
Rajshahi ditto	...	..	...	20,000
Chittagong ditto	...	...	...	25,000
		Total	...	1,50,000

34. The total sum available, viz., Rs. 2,26,000 + 1,500 or Rs. 3,76,000, falls far short of the requirements of the scheme for the improvement of secondary education which contemplates an ultimate annual recurring expenditure of a sum approaching 14 lakhs. It has not therefore been practicable to consider any but the most pressing needs and it is not possible to say at present whether, and if so, to what extent, it will be feasible to set aside specific funds out of this allotment for purely Muhammadan institutions, *e.g.*, madrasas ; but the matter will receive proper consideration.

35. In referring to the Rs. 1,50,000 grant for secondary education it is necessary to explain that the provision shown against this head in the Financial statement, viz., Rs. 1,28,000, stands to be adjusted, and there need be no apprehension that the full amount will not be available.

36. Before passing on to the next head of expenditure it may be explained that a sum of about Rs. 1,20,000 only could be spent out of the lump allotment of Rs. 13,20,000 for recurring expenditure. The balance has been regranted and appears as a provision of Rs. 12,00,000 and immediately below the item of Rs. 13,20,000 in the table on page 19 of the Financial Statement.

37. This brings us to the next item on the list to be discussed, viz., Rs. 2,17,000. This merely represents the regranted unexpended balance of the non-recurring Imperial grant of Rs. 4 lakhs made in 1912-13 for hostels outside Calcutta and Dacca. The provision is earmarked for specific projects in process of completion and requires no further explanation.

38. Similarly, in the case of the provision of Rs. 8,70,000, which is the unexpended balance of the non-recurring Imperial grant for hostels in Calcutta, the scheme of distribution was indicated by Mr. Küchler last year. The rate of progress in the case of this allotment has been extremely disappointing. Various causes are accountable for this. Most of the schemes involve the acquisition of sites and extensive building operations and it seems impossible to make any appreciable headway. In the first place, suitable sites are difficult to find and when found they are valued at much higher rates than the allotments available can sustain. In cases in which sites have been obtained, the building operations have been protracted, plans are suddenly altered or the schemes revised and so on. It is hoped, however, that the balance will be considerably diminished during the course of the ensuing financial year.

[*Mr. Samman.*]

39 The next item on the list is part of the Imperial non-recurring assignment of 75 lakhs which is composed of the following grants :—

		Rs.
1.	For the construction of hostels in the Presidency of Bengal and to provide for the Dacca hostel scheme	20,50,000
2.	For colleges, secondary schools and training institutions	7,00,000
3.	For elementary schools	10,00,000
4.	For educational hygiene, gymnasia, etc. ...	3,50,000
5.	Manual instruction	1,00,000
6.	For girls' schools, technical and special schools	5,00,000
7.	For European education	5,00,000
8.	For Dacca University	15,00,000
9.	For Calcutta University	8,00,000
	Total ...	75,00,000

40. Deducting items Nos. 8 and 9, which refer to grants to the Calcutta and Dacca Universities, with which allotments the Education Department is not directly concerned, the total amount available for general education stands at Rs. 52,00,000.

41. The sums provided in the education budget of the current year and in the Financial Statement under discussion are but instalments of the total assignment of Rs. 75,00,000. This was too large a sum to be spent all in one year. The first year's allotment represents, roughly, one-third of the whole assignment and the sum of Rs. 30 lakhs, which it is proposed to provide in the next budget, represents the amount which, it is anticipated, it will be possible to spend in the year 1914-15.

42 In dealing with this particular assignment, therefore, it has been considered proper to relate our requirements upon the full grant available for the various objects with which we are immediately concerned, and not upon the specific budget allotments for the year 1914-15. I shall therefore proceed to shew how we propose to take up the allotment of Rs. 52,00,000 under the heads for which the Director of Public Instruction is directly responsible.

43. (*a*) Rupees 20,50,000.

This provision has been set out as follows :—

		Rs.
1.	For the Dacca Enclave Scheme	10,00,000
2.	For the Medical College hostel	5,00,000
3.	For hostels attached to schools and colleges in the Presidency	5,50,000
	Total ...	20,50,000

44. What is known as the Dacca Enclave Scheme is a project which aims at consolidation within the limits of Dacca town, the object being to provide every quarter of the city with schools, each institution affected by the scheme to be self-contained with hostels and teachers quarters. The scheme has been worked out in detail. Land acquisition proceedings are involved, and a large portion of the amount set aside for the scheme will be taken up in this way.

45. The project for the establishment of a Government hostel for medical students scarcely needs explanation. The provision of proper hostel accommodation for medical students has long been a crying need.

46. Against the provision of Rs. 5,50,000 set aside for school and college hostels, we have a large number of projects, aggregating in cost

[*Mr. Samman.*]

Rs. 15,50,000. Projects are being matured and will be financed as they are ready for the disbursement of funds.

47. Rupees 7,00,000 for colleges, secondary schools and training institutions.

It is proposed to distribute the grant as follows :—

	Rs.
1. College and school buildings	2,82,000
2. For the Muhammadan Arts College ...	2,00,000
3. Reserve for financing two or three large schemes which are approaching maturity ...	2,18,000
Total ...	7,00,000

From an investigation instituted by me during the year I ascertained that there is a vast array of projects on the books of the department, the execution of which is dependent on the provision of special grants for the purpose. The total estimated requirements amount to Rs. 54,96,861. This estimate includes such important schemes as the improvement of the Presidency College, the establishment of a Muhammadan Arts College, the rebuilding of the Sanskrit College and the improvement of the buildings for secondary schools. The allotment available can cover a small fraction only of the estimated requirements. The allocation of this allotment has therefore been a matter of considerable difficulty, and there does not seem to be any immediate prospect of taking up the great majority of the schemes which have been put forward.

48. Rupees 10,00,000 for elementary education.

I shall first indicate briefly the requirements under this head. In order to complete the scheme for the construction of Boards' schools in each Panchayati Union of the Presidency and to provide Guru-training schools of the proposed type in East and West Bengal, it is estimated that a sum of Rs. 14,54,000 roughly will be required, after providing for the requirements of middle vernacular schools the total estimated cost amounts approximately to Rs. 15 lakhs. In dealing with the recurring Imperial grant of Rs. 3,65,000 for elementary education, I mentioned that it was not found practicable to utilise at once the full allotment on schemes of a recurring nature, and I stated that, as in the case of the previous grant of Rs. 6 lakhs, the money would be devoted to capital expenditure. The total sum therefore available for non-recurring expenditure is Rs. 13,65,000, which will meet all but 1½ lakh of the present estimated requirements of a non-recurring nature of elementary schools for boys. As I have already shewn, about Rs. 7,75,000 will be spent this year or early next year. The balance, Rs. 5,90,000, will be carried over for expenditure later. In contemplating schemes involving the construction of a large number of new buildings, we must be careful that we do not overbuild, for it must be remembered that in providing Board schools we also pledge ourselves to their maintenance.

49. For educational hygiene, gymnasia, etc., we have a non-recurring provision of Rs. 3,50,000. The whole of this amount will remain unexpended this year. It may interest the Hon'ble Members of this Council to know that Government have appointed a special committee to inquire into the question of school and college hygiene and to advise them with regard to the best method of utilising the grant. The question of the provision of adequate playing-fields for educational institutions will occupy the first attention of the committee. This involves the acquisition of land, and in Calcutta at any rate this is bound to prove very costly.

50. The scheme for the employment of the non-recurring grant of 1 lakh for manual instruction is, along with the recurring provision for the purpose, receiving consideration, and I am not yet in a position to make any statement with regard to the matter.

[*Mr. Samman; Sir William Duke.*]

51. A sum of Rs. 5 lakhs has been allotted for girls' schools and technical and special schools. Government have definitely decided that 4 lakhs should be set aside for female education and the remaining 1 lakh for technical and special institutions.

52. The whole of the 4 lakhs can be taken up at once for building projects (including equipment) in connection with girls' schools. The improvement of the buildings of the Bethune College, the estimates for which have greatly exceeded the sums formerly available, is included in the above estimate.

53. The 1 lakh for technical and special schools can also be spent without much further consideration.

54. The non-recurring grant of Rs. 5,00,000 for the European School project has already been apportioned among the various aided schools of the Presidency.

55. This ends the tale of special Imperial grants, but, before concluding, I may perhaps refer to an inquiry which has been made in this Council regarding the share which specifically Muhammadan institutions and projects are to have in the distribution of the Imperial grant of 75 lakhs, or rather out of the 52-lakh allotment. With the exception of Rs. 2,00,000, which has been set aside for the acquisition of land in connection with the establishment of a Muhammadan Arts College in Calcutta and the reorganization of the Calcutta Madrasa and connected institutions, no sums have been earmarked for specifically Muhammadan institutions. I desire, however, to protest against any suggestion that the Muhammadans are not getting their fair share in the general improvements which the Imperial grants are enabling us to effect. Muhammadan boys are seeking admission to secondary schools and colleges in ever-increasing numbers, while there are parts of the Presidency in which Muhammadan boys form the majority of those at school. Moreover, out of the Rs. 5,50,000 for hostels, about Rs. 1,00,000 will be devoted to schemes for the improvement or provision of hostel accommodation for Muhammadans. The question of the improvement of the education given in Madrasas is under consideration. It is not possible at the present stage to state what additional funds will be required to give effect to reforms in this direction, but of one thing I am certain, and that is that if we try and finance this scheme out of the recurring allotment for secondary education—inadequate as that allotment has been shown to be—there will be nothing left for secondary schools.

Of new items in the proposed budget, which are to be financed from Provincial revenues, the only one which is likely to attract attention is that involving a provision of Rs. 26,720 a year for the Assistant Director of Public Instruction for Muhammadan Education and his establishment. The functions of this officer are of a purely advisory character for the present. Another item about which something may be said is that relating to the revision of the office establishment of the Director of Public Instruction. What is meant by revision in this connection is this: There are at present in my office two sets of assistants on different terms of service. Those of them who remained in Bengal after Bihar and Orissa passed under a separate administration and those who came over from Eastern Bengal and Assam. The former were mostly in the Subordinate Educational Service, while the latter had a separate cadre of their own. It is now proposed to have a combined cadre outside the graded service."

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 11.

The Hon'ble SIR WILLIAM DUKE introduced the following heads :—

Revenue—

XX—Medical.

Expenditure—

24. Medical.

[*Sir William Duke.*]

He said :—

"My Lord, on the receipt side the budget estimate for the current year was Rs. 3,76,000, but in the revised this has been raised to Rs. 4,00,000, or by Rs. 24,000. The increase is chiefly under medicines sold by Civil Surgeons, and partly also from fees in the Medical College. The budget for 1914-15 has been taken at Rs. 3,97,000, and generally follows the revised estimate for the current year.

As regards expenditure, the revised estimate has been placed at Rs. 24,05,000 against the budget grant of Rs. 24,18,000, excluding the expenditure on Sanitation, and shows a decrease of Rs. 13,000. The decrease is due to the grant for the School of Tropical Medicines not having been utilized and to Rs. 20,000 only having been spent out of the total grant of one lakh from Medical Relief. On the other hand, there was an increase of expenditure under grants to hospitals and dispensaries owing to special grants of Rs. 60,000 for Mymensingh Hospital and Rs. 8,000 to the General Hospital, Howrah. The full staff of Indian Medical Service officers was not employed and savings accrued under Medical Establishment.

As for next year, the budget has been placed at Rs. 25,56,000 (excluding Sanitation). It includes 1 lakh, being the balance of the Imperial grant of 5 lakhs for the construction of the School of Tropical Medicine which was provided for in the budget for the current year, but not utilized and regranted in next year. Rupees 50,000 has also been provided for the equipment of the school. It is estimated that the total cost of the school will be about 11⅓ lakhs and the Scientific Advisory Board of the Indian Research Fund have contributed 1 lakh for the purpose. India have given 5 lakhs. Private donations and subscriptions are being raised for meeting as much of the balance of the cost as can be raised. The rest will fall on the Provincial Funds. It is expected that the buildings will be completed in November next when it is proposed to open the school, and provision has been made for the establishment required for four months of the year. Rupees 80,000, being the balance of the Imperial grant of 1 lakh for medical relief, has also been provided for, and this amount has been earmarked for grants to hospitals for the construction of Phthisis wards.

Provision has again been made for an Indian Medical Service officer as Personal Assistant to the Inspector-General of Civil Hospitals in place of a ministerial officer on lower pay. The budget includes Rs. 2,000 for the revision of the establishment of the civil surgeons' offices, Rs. 1,800 for allowance to the Civil Surgeon, 24-Parganas, for charge of the Voluntary Venereal Hospital, Rs. 2,000 for providing typewriting machines to certain Civil Surgeons' offices, Rs. 7,200 for teaching allowances to the three Resident Surgeons and Physicians of the Medical College Hospital, Rs. 1,200 for the appointment of an Obstetric Registrar for the same hospital, Rs. 2,000 for increase of staff allowance of the Military Assistant Surgeons of the General Hospital, Rs. 25,000 for the improvement of nursing arrangements in mufassal hospitals and Rs. 34,260 for expenditure of Serological tests in the Medical College, and a proposal has been submitted to the Government of India for the establishment of the Serological laboratory on a permanent footing. The Government of India have contributed Rs. 32,000 in the current year and Rs. 25,000 in budget for 1914-15 for expenditure on this account through the head of Land Revenue Adjustments.

Larger provision has been made in the budget for medical and other stores of the Medical College and Campbell Hospitals. The diet allowances of nurses of the Campbell hospital have also been raised from Rs. 15 a month to annas 10 per diem, and the number of nurses have also been increased from 28 to 34. Provision has been made to meet the full instead of one-half of the cost of the Sornomoyee Hostel which has come under the control of the Medical College authorities. Owing to the opening of a separate testing chemical laboratory in the Customs House, Calcutta, one post of an Assistant Chemical Examiner has been abolished, and no provision has been made for a probationary examiner."

[*Nawab Syed Shams-ul-Huda.*]

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 12.

12. The Hon'ble NAWAB SYED SHAMS-UL-HUDA introduced the following heads :—

Revenue—

X—Registration.

Expenditure—

12. Registration.

24. Sanitation.

He said :—

"My Lord, I beg to introduce the budget estimates relating to the Registration Branch. The receipts under this head are estimated at Rs. 20,50,000, allowing for a normal increase of Rs. 80,000 over the revised estimate of Rs. 19,70,000 for 1913-14. The new items of expenditure provided for in the budget are stated in paragraph 42, pages 15-16 of the Financial Statement. These are—

(1) *Provision for Registrar of Joint Stock Companies and his establishment.*—The necessity for the appointment of a separate Registrar arose on account of the passing of the Indian Companies Act, 1913, which is to come into force on the 1st April, 1914. This Act has entailed considerable additional duties and responsibilities upon the Registrar of Joint-Stock Companies. The duties of the Registrar under the old Act were performed by the Registrar of Assurances, Calcutta, an officer drawing Rs. 400 a month, who is also Registrar under the Provident Insurance Societies Act, 1912, and the Indian Life Assurance Companies Act, 1912, and the office work was performed by his ordinary registration establishment. This was an unsatisfactory arrangement even under existing conditions, and it is certain that the present arrangement will be unworkable after the 1st of April next, and it is essential that a whole-time officer should be appointed with an adequate establishment, and that he should also undertake the duties of Registrar under the Indian Life Assurance Companies Act. The work to be done by such an officer will be very responsible and very technical. The Government of India have sanctioned the appointment and the office establishment.

(2) *Lump provision for increasing the leave reserve.*—This has been done to obviate the necessity of appointing outsiders on the occasion of leave vacancies.

(3) Lump provision for increase of salary of District Sub-Registrars.

(4) Lump provision for the revision of cadre of Sub-Registrars.

(5) *Provision for the revision of the ministerial establishment at the head-quarters offices.*—Ministerial officers in other departments had received an increase of pay and those of the Registration Department had naturally been looking for some improvement in their pay and prospects. According to our scheme explained in our letter to the Government of India, head-quarters offices have been divided into two classes according to the volume and complexity of work, and different scales of pay and allowances have been fixed for the two classes. One main feature of the scheme is to raise the minimum pay of clerks from Rs. 20 to Rs. 30 and of muharrirs from Rs. 15 to Rs. 25. The maximum pay of the clerks in class I offices will, under our scheme, be Rs. 60 and in class II offices, Rs. 50. The scheme also provides for the increase of pay of the establishment employed in joint offices at head-quarters. We will take up the head-quarters staff from the 1st April, 1914, and the staff of mufassal offices year after next. It took us some time to assimilate the different schemes which had been submitted for East and West Bengal,

respectively, and to work out all the details. I hope, however, it will not be long before we are able to bring relief to all the ministerial officers of the department who have been looking forward to it for some time past and with good reason.

There are several other minor provisions which I need not specifically deal with.

We have provided Rs. 75,000 for Registration Buildings under Civil works in charge of the Public Works Department. This will enable us to effect much-needed improvements in the mufassal office accommodation.

I have also the honour to introduce in Council the budget estimates relating to the Sanitation and Vaccination Departments. Under this head it is only the expenditure, the figures of which are to be found in pages 59 and 60, that is open to discussion. The full notes given in the Draft Financial Statement leave very little to say.

The revised estimates for the current year amounts to Rs. 3,20,000, which is Rs. 1,88,000 less than the amount provided in the original budget and Rs. 72,000 less than the amount provided for the next year. The differences in the figures are due to (1) non-employment of Additional Deputy Sanitary Commissioners throughout the year. The Indian Medical Service Deputy Sanitary Commissioner has not yet been sent by the Government of India, and of the two Indians one joined in April and the other, in July last ; (2) non-expenditure of the allotments for jungle-cutting, as well as for purchase of quinine for sale. The jungle-cutting expenditure has not yet been started and no quinine was purchased this year, as a large quantity of the quinine which was purchased last year was left undistributed after the close of the year ; and (3) to the fact that few Health Officers were appointed during the year. For the coming year, however, full provision has been made for the three additional Deputy Sanitary Commissioners, for jungle-cutting and for the pay of the Health Officers. No provision is made for the purchase of quinine, as jail-made treatments will be used.

There is a provision of Rs. 11,75,000 for the year 1913-14 to meet the expenditure on works of sanitary improvement ; but in the revised estimates the amount was reduced by ten lakhs as a very small sum has been spent up to date. The estimate for 1914-15 has, however, been placed at Rs. 28,32,772 inclusive of the provision for civil works in charge of Civil officers, formerly shown separately. At the same time, in accordance with the orders of the Government of India, a lump deduction of ten lakhs has been made in the total. The expenditure which has already been sanctioned or will probably be sanctioned from these grants is shown in paragraph 60, pages 24-25 of the Financial Statement.

I do not wish, however, to go into details regarding any other minor heads of this portion of the budget, as these will be found adequately dealt with in the Draft Financial Statement just presented to Council."

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 13.

The Hon'ble SIR WILLIAM DUKE introduced the following heads :—

Revenue—

XXIII—Stationery and Printing.

Expenditure—

30. Stationery and Printing.

He said :—

"My Lord, as regards the estimates of the Stationery and Printing Department, there is a small decrease of Rs. 5,000 in the revised estimates on

the receipt side, owing to smaller collections for work done in Government Press for local and private bodies. The budget for 1914-15 is Rs. 1,20,000, and shows a further decrease of Rs. 5,000 due to smaller sales of official publications.

The figures on the expenditure side are shown on page 22 of the Financial Statement. The revised estimate amounts to Rs. 15,39,000 against Rs. 13,60,000, the budget estimate for the current year, and shows an increase of Rs. 1,79,000 chiefly for larger supply of paper to the Dacca Jail Press for extra printing of forms to be kept in stock for the first six months of 1914-15 and to the Bengal Secretariat Press and to the Forms Department for increase of work. The budget for 1914-15 has been placed at Rs. 14,44,000. The Secretariat Press at Writers' Buildings was very congested, and the demands upon it have greatly increased. We have recently got some accommodation in the Military Accounts Department Buildings in Koilaghat Street and a portion of the Press has been removed there. We have had to sanction certain additional establishment for the Branch Press and to provide for contingent expenditure. Provision has been made for the purchase of three linotype machines for the Press to deal promptly and efficiently with additional work.

It is hoped that the forms block in the new Central Jail at Kalighat will be completed early next year, when the Forms Department will be removed there, and, if the Jail hours are introduced, we shall have to provide for some allowances to the establishment of the Forms Department. A provision of Rs. 10,000 has been made in the budget on this account."

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 14.

The Hon'ble Mr. Lyon introduced the following heads :—

Revenue—

XXIX—Irrigation—Major Works.

Expenditure—

42—Irrigation—Major Works (Working Expenses).

Revenue—

XXX—Minor Works and Navigation.

Expenditure—

43—Minor Works and Navigation.

He said :—

"The Major Works with which we have to deal in the Presidency, as at present constituted, are the Midnapore and Hijili Tidal Canals. The latter is for navigation only, while the former provides for both irrigation and navigation. There has been a slight reduction in the receipts from these canals, both under the heads Navigation and Irrigation, in the current year, owing to the silting up of some reaches and the reduction of the area irrigated.

The work of clearing silt out of the blocked reaches has been undertaken during the current year and has caused some increase in the expenditure of the year. It has, however, had an indirect effect in providing work for distressed people in the Midnapore district. It is hoped that there will be an increase in the area irrigated during the coming year.

[*Mr. Lyon; Nawab Syed Shams-ul-Huda.*]

I now turn to the heading Minor Works and Navigation, which is more important in its effect upon Provincial revenues. The chief source of revenue under this head is the tolls received from navigation on the Calcutta Canals, the Sundarbans route and the Madaripur bhil route, which together form the navigable route for boats and inland steamers between Calcutta and Eastern Bengal. The receipts from this source are estimated at Rs. 4,67,000 out of the total estimated receipts of Rs. 6,10,000. During the coming year it is estimated that a sum of Rs. 34,000 will be obtained from tolls levied on the channels included in the new Magrahat Drainage Scheme. The total estimate for receipts shows an improvement of Rs. 44,500 in 1914-15, as compared with the receipts for the current year.

The expenditure under Minor Works and Navigation includes the cost of maintaining protective embankments and out of an increase in expenditure in the current year of Rs. 1,28,000, a sum of Rs. 1,14,000 is due to special provision made for flood damage repairs. In 1914-15, there is a similar provision of Rs. 2,12,000, and it is estimated that there will be a further sum of 1 lakh to be spent in subsequent years. The repairs to the breaches made by the flood of last year will be completed before the coming flood season, and it is hoped that the retired lines of embankments, which are being started wherever they are deemed necessary, will be completed or nearly completed at the same time. The repairs include the raising of the embankment on the left bank of the Damodar river, where the high-flood level of last year has shown that such raising is necessary.

Considerable sums have been included in the estimates for dredging work. The clearing of the bed of the Saraswati river in connection with the Rajapur drainage works is estimated at Rs. 64,000, and Rs. 1,70,000 has been provided for dredging the Angeria creek on the Sundarbans route. There are also provisions made of Rs. 35,000 for a new sluice in the Damodar Embankment below Jujuti, of Rs. 80,000 for dredging the Pattimari channel on the existing steamer route between Calcutta and Barisal, and of Rs. 80,000 for the permanent protection of the Hooghly Left Embankment at Diamond Harbour, where a high flood, combined with stormy weather, caused some serious damage last year."

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 15.

The Hon'ble NAWAB SYED SHAMS-UL-HUDA introduced the following heads :—

Revenue—

XXXI—Civil works in charge of civil officers.

Expenditure—

45. Civil works in charge of civil officers.

He said :—

"My Lord, the receipt side of the estimates calls for little comment. The estimate for the next year and the revised estimate for the current year have both been taken at Rs. 1,44,000, of which tolls on ferries is the only item of importance.

As regards the expenditure, the revised estimate for 1913-14 is Rs. 28,30,000, which is Rs. 1,90,000 less than the budget. The decrease is nominal and is due to the transfer of the charge of Rs. 1,50,000 for grant to the Chittagong Port Fund to the head 21—Ports and Pilotage, and the adjustment under the appropriate heads of the expenditure sanctioned by the Divisional Commissioners and the District Magistrates from the lump grants of Rs. 1,00,000 and Rs. 52,000, respectively. The allotment for works of

[*Nawab Syed Shams-ul-Huda ; Mr. Finnimore.*]

sanitary improvement was not also fully utilized, but the savings will be regranted in next year and the year following.

The budget for 1914-15 amounts to Rs. 20,77,000, which is less than the budget grant for the current year, as the grants for works of sanitary improvement have been wholly provided for in the Medical Budget and not partly here and partly under Medical (Sanitation). The budget includes the following important items:—

	Rs.
Grant to the Calcutta Improvement Trust ...	11,50,000
Augmentation grants to District Boards ...	5,86,000
Grant for the improvement of roads in Government estates, being 1½ per cent. of collections in those estates	67,618
Lump grant at the disposal of the Divisional Commissioners	1,00,000
Lump grant at the disposal of the District Magistrates	52,000
Lump provision for pay of Sub-Overseers in each subdivision in Bengal to report on the real condition of rural water-supply	14,000
Annual grant to the Calcutta Municipality for improvements in official quarters	5,000

The grant-in-aid to the Calcutta Improvement Fund includes 10 lakhs, being the fourth instalment out of the five sanctioned by the Government of India and the balance 1½ lakh is the recurring annual grant for 60 years, with effect from 1911-12. The principal items sanctioned out of the allotment for works of sanitary improvements in the year 1913-14 are enumerated on pages 24 and 25 of the Financial Statement and need not be mentioned by me again.

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 16.

The Hon'ble Mr. Finnimore introduced the following heads :—

Revenue—

XXXI—Civil Works in charge of the Public Works Department.

Expenditure—

45.—Civil Works in charge of the Public Works Department.

He said :—

"My Lord, I have to introduce for the consideration of the Council the Budget for *Civil Works in charge of the Public Works Department.*

This is divided into two parts—

(*a*) Revenue.

(*b*) Expenditure.

In the revised budget figures for the current year under the head of Revenue, there is an increase of Rs. 45,000 in our anticipated receipts principally due to the sale-proceeds of old buildings having exceeded our estimate.

For the year 1914-15, the amount budgetted for receipts is Rs. 3,85,000 against our revised estimate for the current year of Rs. 4,14,000. The decrease is due to anticipated receipts in 1913-14 on account of sale of buildings being less.

On the expenditure side, the increase of Rs. 3,88,000 under Original Works in the Revised Estimate is accounted for principally by an additional grant of Rs. 3,70,620 for the acquisition of land for the School of Tropical Medicine and Biological Laboratory in the Medical College, Calcutta.

[*Mr. Finnimore.*]

The increase of Rs. 48,000 in repairs to communications is mainly due to extra grants given for repairs to the roads in the Darjeeling district necessitated by the heavy rains during June and July.

The decrease of Rs. 87,000 in establishment is due to a larger Imperial contribution of 21½ per cent. on works executed for the Government of India than that anticipated when the budget for the current year was framed.

The grant for expenditure during the coming year is Rs. 89,59,000 against Rs. 78,00,000, the revised estimate for the current year. From this we have first to meet our recurrent expenditure on Establishment, Tools and Plant and Repairs and make adequate provision for carrying on original works in progress.

For Establishment we have provided Rs. 11,47,000 against Rs. 10,20,000, the revised estimate for 1913-14. This difference is due to the fact that we anticipate that the Imperial contribution of 21½ per cent. on works executed for the Government of India during the coming year will be less by Rs. 1,27,009 than it is in the current year.

For Tools and Plant Rs. 70,000 is provided against Rs. 39,000 in the current year. The increase is due to road-rollers required in the Burdwan Division and road-rollers and certain other Tools and Plant for the Duars Roads Division.

For repairs, the amount budgetted is Rs. 21,83,000 against Rs. 19,57,000 in the current year. The increase is due to a provision of about Rs. 2,83,000 for the owner's share of municipal taxes on office buildings, which has hitherto been paid by the Civil Departments occupying them, but which now have to be provided for in the Public Works budget.

To provide adequately for carrying on works now in progress during the coming year, a provision of Rs. 17,29,000 has been made.

This leaves a sum of Rs. 38,30,000 available for works not yet commenced. Of this a sum of Rs. 3,26,500 has been set aside for Minor Works, each costing Rs. 5,000 and less, and in the case of the Educational Department, Rs. 10,000 and less.

This will be placed at the disposal of Commissioners of Divisions and heads of departments thus :—

	Rs.
To Commissioners	71,500
To Excise Department	10,000
Jails Department	40,000
Police (Mufassal)	50,000
Police (Calcutta)	15,000
Education Department	75,000
Medical Department	50,000
Registration Department	15,000
In addition to this we have allotted to Judicial Department Minor Works	10,000
And for the residence of the Heads of the Local Government	25,000
Keeping as reserve	64,000
This leaves for Major Works	34,04,500

The new major works under the heads Police, Jails, Sanitation, Excise, Medical, Education, Registration, Judicial and Revenue are dealt with by the Hon'ble Members in charge of the departments concerned. Important Public Works Department items are—

Rupees 50,000 for Public Works Department offices ;

Rupees 60,000 for residences for Public Works officers (long-felt wants) ; and

Nine and a half lakhs for roads, of which Rs. 4,50,000 will be required next year in connection with improvements to the Duars roads. The balance

of this grant, viz., will be utilized in improving communications in other parts of the province."

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 17.

The Hon'ble MR. LYON introduced the following heads :—

Revenue—

XVIII—Ports and Pilotage.

Expenditure—

21. Ports and Pilotage.

He said :—

"The only noticeable matter in connection with these figures is the decrease on both the receipt and expenditure sides of the estimates for pilotage charges. This is due to a falling-off shown in the first nine months of the current year in the number of vessels entering and leaving the Calcutta Port. It would appear, however, that this falling-off has come to an end, and that there has been an increase during the last two or three months. This warrants the higher estimate which has been made of receipts and expenditure during the coming year. I may add that the decrease in the current year in the number of vessels entering the port is almost wholly due to the fact that there were fewer colliers coming to the port in ballast in the earlier part of the year. There has, however, been a great recovery in the number of such vessels in the later months of the year."

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 18.

The Hon'ble SIR WILLIAM DUKE introduced the following heads :—

Revenue—

XII—Interest.

Expenditure—

1. Refunds and Drawbacks.

Revenue—

XXII—Receipts in aid of Superannuation, etc.

Expenditure—

29. Superannuation Allowance.

Revenue—

XXV—Miscellaneous.

Expenditure—

32. Miscellaneous.

He said :—

"My Lord, these heads do not call for any detailed remarks. As I said last year the interest budget represents for the most part the loan transactions of the Local Government. We borrow money from the Government of India at 3½ per cent. calculated on the mean outstanding balance, and lend it under the Land Improvement and Agriculturists' Loans Acts to Co-operative Societies (Class I), under Special Acts (Drainage and Embankment Advances) (Class II), to landholders (Class III) and to local bodies such as District Boards and Municipalities (excluding Presidency Corporations) (Class IV).

[*Sir William Duke.*]

The receipts comprise the interest we realize. The increase under this head is due to the large advances given under Agriculturists' Loans Act in 1913-14, owing to the floods in Burdwan and Midnapore. The revised estimates of advances to be made in 1913–14 and the budget estimates for 1914–15 are—

	1913–14.	1914–15.
	Rs.	Rs.
Class I	6,76,500	3,05,000
,, II	90,000	3,00,000
,, III	36,671	.....
,, IV	4,68,000	7,90,000

In the Superannuation budget the receipts represent the contributions paid by the different officers lent to foreign services and for the management of private estates. The charge under this head represents pensions and gratuities, which rise year after year, and provision is made with reference to the average increase in the past three years. A special provision of Rs. 75,000 has been made for both 1913–14 and 1914–15 to meet the charges for the commutation of pensions.

Refunds and drawbacks occur in the different departments, and the details are shown on page 40 of the Financial Statement. We budget on the basis of the average actuals of the past three years, excluding special payments.

On the receipt side the revised estimate for the current year is Rs. 6,78,000 against Rs. 5,91,000, the budget estimate for the year. The increase is chiefly under unclaimed deposits, which is an uncertain item, and the estimate under this sub-head has been raised by Rs. 55,000. The rest of the increase is due to the sale of Government land to the railway at Chittagong, and the sale-proceeds of tents from the Government House stock at Dacca to the Private Secretary to the Lieutenant-Governor of Bihar and Orissa and fees for the audit of accounts of 1911–12 and previous years of the Courts of Wards completed in 1912-13 and 1913-14. The estimate for next year is Rs. 5,92,000, which closely follows the budget for the current year, and does not call for any special remarks.

Turning to the expenditure side, the revised estimate shows a nominal saving of Rs. 2,37,000, which is mainly due to the adjustment under the appropriate heads of the expenditure sanctioned by His Excellency from the provision for petty grants, and to the transfer of the charges for grain compensation allowances to the respective departments by reappropriation from a lump provision under the head and to the reappropriation of the reserve provision of 1½ lakhs in order to meet expenditure under other heads. On the other hand, additional charges were incurred for expenditure on gratuitous relief (1½ lakhs) in flooded areas in the districts of Burdwan and Midnapore for charges in connection with the District Administration Committee (1 lakh) and Calcutta Port Facilities Committee (Rs. 77,000). Special building grants have also been sanctioned to the Prisoners' Aid Society, to the Calcutta Orphanage and to the Anath Bhandar.

The budget for next year is Rs. 10,81,000 and includes Rs. 20,000 for charges for the District Administration Committee, Rs 3,000 for the Port Facilities Committee, the usual allotment of Rs. 1,00,000 for petty grants for His Excellency, Rs. 50,000 for charges on account of gratuitous relief in flooded areas and Rs. 40,000 for charges on account of grain compensation allowances which will be reappropriated to meet the increase of pay of menials and the usual provision of 1½ lakhs for unforeseen charges.

The provision for charitable donations has been raised from Rs. 1,60,000 to Rs. 1,70,000. It includes Rs. 6,600 for the Lady Minto's Nursing Association, Rs. 76,466 for the Calcutta Female Nurses' Institution and several recurring annual grants to various charitable institutions.

[*Sir William Duke; The President.*]

The question of raising the pay of the menials of the several departments of Government both for Calcutta and the mufassal is under consideration, and it is expected that the Government of India will be requested to sanction the increase of pay of this low-paid class of Government servants. In the current year about 3 lakhs was spent for the payment of grain allowance, but in next year it has been raised to Rs. 4,00,000, so that when the increase of pay of menials is sanctioned we will stop the grain allowance but raise the pay. The Government of India have just sanctioned an assignment of Rs. 26,000 for the remission of certain recoveries from local bodies which will be credited under Land Revenue Adjustments, but a corresponding provision has been made on the expenditure side under this head as it is assumed that, for the purposes of the budget, the increase will result in an increase of expenditure, though in most cases there will actually be a reduction in revenue. These entries are subject to the sanction of the Secretary of State to the detailed proposals which are under submission.

I am also to remind those Hon'ble Members who are desirous of sending in Resolutions on the Revised Financial Statement that the latest time for receipt of such resolutions by the Secretary to the Council is 11 A.M., on the 8th March."

The PRESIDENT said :—

"Referring to what has just fallen from my hon'ble colleague, I may say that I have just been handed a representation signed by certain non-official members of this House pointing out that it is a very short time between now and the 8th, and that it would be inconvenient for them to have to send in their Resolutions by that time. I am afraid I cannot help that. We are bound by our rules (which are statutory) to take up the discussion on the 13th, and to finish it by the 16th. I am afraid I cannot set aside these rules on such a brief consideration of the matter as the representation just given me has allowed me to take, and I do not propose to do so. I will, however, look into the matter, and see whether anything can be done in subsequent years to meet the wishes of those who have signed the representation.

ADJOURNMENT.

The Council, meanwhile, stands adjourned to Friday, the 13th March, at 2 P.M.

A. W. WATSON,
Secy. to the Bengal Legislative Council.

CALCUTTA;
The 7th March, 1914.

B. S. Press—24-4-1914—4237J—590—E. J. H. & others.

Abstract of the Proceedings of the Bengal Legislative Council assembled under the provisions of the Indian Councils Acts, 1861, 1892 and 1909, and the Government of India Act, 1912.

THE Council met in the Council Chamber in Government House on Friday, the 13th March, 1914, at 2 P.M.

Present:

His Excellency the Right Hon'ble THOMAS DAVID, BARON CARMICHAEL OF SKIRLING, G.C.I.E., K.C.M.G., Governor of the Presidency of Fort William in Bengal, *presiding*.

The Hon'ble SIR FREDERICK WILLIAM DUKE, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., *Vice-President*.

The Hon'ble MR. P. C. LYON, C.S.I.

The Hon'ble NAWAB SYED SHAMS-UL-HUDA.

The Hon'ble MR. C. J. STEVENSON-MOORE, C.V.O.

The Hon'ble MR. F. J. MONAHAN.

The Hon'ble MR. J. G. CUMMING, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. B. K. FINNIMORE.

The Hon'ble MR. J. H. KERR, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. H. L. STEPHENSON, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. H. F. SAMMAN.

The Hon'ble MR. B. B. NEWBOULD.

The Hon'ble MR. C. H. BOMPAS.

The Hon'ble MR. W. W. HORNELL.

The Hon'ble MR. C. F. PAYNE.

The Hon'ble RAI PRIYA NATH MUKHARJI BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble MR. A. N. MOBERLY.

The Hon'ble COL. G. F. A. HARRIS, C.S.I.

The Hon'ble MR. H. J. HILARY.

The Hon'ble NAWAB SIR KHWAJA SALIMULLAH BAHADUR, G.C.I.E., K.C.S.I.

The Hon'ble MR. S. P. SINHA.

The Hon'ble DR. NILRATAN SARKAR.

The Hon'ble RAJA HRISHIKESH LAHA, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. BYOMKES CHAKRAVARTI.

The Hon'ble SIR BIJAY CHAND MAHTAB, K.C.S.I., K.C.I.E., I.O.M., Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan.

The Hon'ble MAHARAJA JAGADINDRA NATH RAY.

The Hon'ble DR. DEBA PRASAD SARBADHIKARI.

The Hon'ble MR. J. G. APCAR.

The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble MR. NORMAN McLEOD.

The Hon'ble MR. J. C. SHORROCK.

The Hon'ble MR. W. T. GRICE.

The Hon'ble MR. G. A. BAYLEY.

The Hon'ble MR. A. W. C. CHAPLIN.

The Hon'ble MR. GOLAM HOSSEIN CASSIM ARIFF.

The Hon'ble MAULVI MAZHARUL ANWAR CHAUDHURI.

The Hon'ble MAHARAJA RANAJIT SINHA of Nashipur.

The Hon'ble RAI NALINAKSHA BASU BAHADUR.

[*The President.*]

The Hon'ble NAWAB SAIYID NAWAB ALI CHAUDHURI, KHAN BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble BABU PRASANNA KUMAR RAY.

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI.

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH RAY.

The Hon'ble RAI HARI MOHAN CHANDRA BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble BABU UPENDRA LAL RAY.

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT.

His Excellency the President, having taken the chair, rose and addressed the Council as follows :—

"At a meeting on 5th March a representation was made to me by certain Hon'ble Members asking me to postpone the discussion of the resolutions arising out of the Financial Statement (which by our rules we take to-day) until a later date. The practice of other Legislative Councils was referred to as justifying this request, and it was pointed out to me that the time given to Hon'ble Members in which to prepare resolutions for the discussion was, in the opinion of those who signed the representation, obviously inadequate. I stated to the Council that I could not agree to the prayer of the representation for this year, but that I would consider whether the wishes of those who signed it could be met in subsequent years.

I have looked into the matter, and I find that, unless the Government of India alter their dates for dealing with the various stages of the India Budget, it will be impossible for me to do as I have been requested to do. Even if it be within my power to make the postponement asked for—a question into which I need not enter—it would not, I think, be a proper use of my power ; for to postpone the discussions would only be to make them entirely futile in that the India Budget would meanwhile have been disposed of, and no recommendation by this Government, based upon resolutions presented to it, could be entertained.

Hon'ble Members, in basing their request on the practice of other Legislative Councils, are under a misapprehension. Neither in Madras, nor in Bombay, nor in any other province where a Legislative Council exists, does the discussion of analogous resolutions to those which can be moved here to-day begin on a date later than 13th March.

As to the length of time available to Hon'ble Members after they have received the amended Draft Financial Statement, I may say that Government introduced the present procedure, with the sanction of the Government of India, in the belief that it was an improvement on the procedure previously in force. Ten full days, instead of three as was the case before 1912, are now secured to Hon'ble Members in which to draft resolutions, and four further full days, in which to prepare speeches. It seems to me that these periods are not unduly short.

Probably in every year some Hon'ble Members may be unable to listen to the speeches delivered on behalf of Government when the various Budget heads are introduced, and it may seem to those Members that there might be possible advantage if they had longer time in which to read and study these speeches. This advantage could never be more than a very slight one ; but, if I can secure it to Hon'ble Members in another year, I shall be glad to do so. At present, however, I do not see how I can.

[*Babu Upendra Lal Ray; Mr. Stephenson; Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahad Mr. Finnimore.*]

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 1.

STARRED QUESTIONS

By the Hon'ble BABU UPENDRA LAL RAY :—

Salaries of officers employed in the Customs House, Chittagong

1. (*a*) Is it a fact that the ministerial officers employed in the Cust House at Chittagong have received no increment of salary since the 1870?

(*b*) Are the Government considering the expediency of extending recommendations of the Salaries Commission in respect of the emolument the said officers?

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON replied :—

1. (*a*) "The pay of the establishment was revised in 1891 and addit were made in 1896, 1907 and in 1908.

(*b*) The answer is in the negative."

By the Hon'ble BABU UPENDRA LAL RAY :—

Salaries of menials employed in the Government courts and offices in the Presidency.

2. (*a*) Is it a fact that the salaries of the orderlies, process-ser peons and other menial servants employed in the Government courts offices in this Presidency have remained the same for the last 50 years?

(*b*) Are the Government considering the question of raising the sal of these employés?

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON replied :—

2. (*a*) "It is not a fact that the salaries of orderlies, process-ser peons and other menial servants in this Presidency have remained the for the last 50 years. The minimum wage of all whole-time servants raised to Rs. 6 per mensem in 1898, and the pay of peons in Calcutta, Al and Howrah was revised in 1902, and the pay of the Secretariat chap and menials has been raised again since that date. In Eastern Bengal, pay of menials at Dacca was raised to Rs. 8 per mensem and the p individual menials has, in the last few years, been raised in a conside number of cases throughout the province.

(*b*) The question is under consideration and Government hope to be position shortly to address the Government of India on the subject."

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

By the Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR :—

Opening of a chord line from Sealdah through Basirhat and Satkhira to Khulna.

1.—Will the Government be pleased to state whether there is proposal under their consideration of opening a chord line from Sea through Basirhat and Satkhira to Khulna?

The following answer by the Hon'ble Mr. Finnimore was laid on table :—

1.—"A reconnaissance survey will shortly be carried out for a d broad-gauge line connecting Calcutta with Khulna; but it is not possib say at present through what points it will pass."

[*Mr. A. W. C. Chaplin; Mr. Finnimore.*]

By the Hon'ble Mr. A. W. C. CHAPLIN :—

Dooars Improvement

11.—Will the Government be pleased to state what progress has been made with the Dooars Road Improvement Scheme, and give specific information on the following points :—

(*a*) What sum is expected to be expended on the scheme during the current financial year?

(*b*) How much is it proposed to expend thereon in the next financial year?

(*c*) What is the amount of the estimated cost of the full programme for the improvement of the Dooars roads, as submitted to Government by the Public Works Department; to what extent have this programme and estimate been sanctioned, and over how many years is it proposed to spread the work?

(*d*) Has a preliminary programme of expenditure, spread over the next four or five years, now been definitely sanctioned; and, if so, will the Government be pleased to state the amount of funds to be allocated for this purpose?

(*e*) Are the Government taking action in the direction of assisting the Jalpaiguri District Board by special grants for road construction and maintenance, in addition to such grants as may be allotted for the Public Works Department Dooars programme; and, if so, will the Government be pleased to state the amount of grants allotted?

The following answer by the Hon'ble Mr. Finnimore was laid on the table :—

11.—(*a*) and (*c*) "The scheme for the improvement of the Dooars roads proposed by the local authorities has been carefully considered by Government. The total approximate cost of the scheme, as proposed, amounted to 35 lakhs of rupees. Of this amount, it was proposed that 24½ lakhs should be spent by the Public Works Department and 10½ lakhs by the District Board, of which 6 lakhs should be a grant-in-aid from Provincial Revenues. As it is not possible during the next four years to provide more than 20 lakhs of rupees for these roads, the Commissioner, Rajshahi Division, has been asked to report, after consulting the local authorities and the Dooars Planters' Association, what works can be eliminated from the programme or postponed for further consideration after the financial year 1917-18, so as to reduce the total rough cost of the scheme, excluding District Board roads to be constructed from District Funds, to the sum of Rs. 20 lakhs that can be made available for the work. No reply has yet been received from the Commissioner to that reference.

Of the 2 lakhs provided in the current year's Provincial Civil Works Budget of the Public Works Department, it is anticipated that a sum of about Rs. 1,08,000 will be expended on the scheme during the current financial year. The preliminary programme for the improvement and maintenance of the roads under the Public Works Department is being worked up to as far as practicable in anticipation of the final programme referred to above. The detailed estimates for five roads have already been sanctioned, and another such estimate is under the consideration of Government.

(*b*) It is proposed to spend 4½ lakhs.

(*d*) This cannot be done until the report called for from the Commissioner alluded to in the reply to (*a*) and (*c*) is received.

(*e*) Government have no present intention of giving a special grant to the Jalpaiguri District Board for road construction and maintenance. The resources of the District Board have recently been very much increased by the surrender to them of the Public Works cess."

[*Sir William Duke.*]

THE REVISED FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 2.

The Hon'ble Sir William Duke presented the Revised Financial Statement for Bengal for 1914-15.

He said :—

"My Lord, I have the honour to present the Revised Financial Statement for Bengal for 1914-15. There is absolutely nothing to say about this statement beyond what is contained in the memorandum which was circulated yesterday. The only change which has been introduced by the Government of India is in the estimate of receipts under 'V—Excise' for 1914-15. The satisfactory feature is that the assignments of Rs. 1,50,000 and Rs. 26,000 sanctioned by the Government of India for education and remission of certain recoveries from local bodies, respectively, are recurring assignments from the year 1914-15 and not permanent additions."

REVISED FINANCIAL STATEMENT, BENGAL, 1914-15.

FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

FINANCE.

Calcutta, the 12th March, 1914.

MEMORANDUM.

IN accordance with Rule 14 (1) and (2) of the Bengal Legislative (Financial Statement) Rules, 1912, published with Notification No. 4482 F., dated the 10th December 1912, the following memorandum is circulated indicating the alterations in the figures which have been made since the circulation of the Amended Draft Financial Statement, Bengal, for 1914-15 on the 4th instant.

2. The only change which has been made by the Government of India is in the estimate of receipts under "V—Excise" for 1914-15. The budget has been raised by 3 lakhs or from Rs. 1,55,00,000 to Rs. 1,58,00,000 in view of the Settlement of Excise shops now in progress which shows a larger increase than had been expected. The closing balance for 1914-15 will now be Rs. 1,98,32,000 against Rs. 1,95,32,000 adopted in the Amended Draft Financial Statement.

3. The assignments of Rs. 1,50,000 and Rs. 26,000 sanctioned by the Government of India for education and remission of certain recoveries from local bodies, respectively, are recurring assignments from the year 1914-15.

4. Copies of the revised Financial Statement are circulated herewith.

F. W. DUKE.

REVISED FINANCIAL STATEMENT, BENGAL, 1914-15.

PART I.—General Review.

(1) ACCOUNTS FOR 1912-13.

In the revised estimate for 1912-13, which was laid before the Council on the 26th March 1913, the receipts of the year were taken at Rs. 7,12,53,000 and the charges at Rs. 5,95,55,000, while the anticipated closing balance was Rs. 2,83,23,000. The accounts of 1912-13 as finally closed show that the actual receipts amounted to Rs. 7,16,53,401 and the charges to Rs. 5,69,48,131, and the closing balance was Rs. 3,13,30,270. The receipts were thus better by Rs. 4,00,401, this improvement having occurred chiefly under "Land Revenue Adjustments" (Rs. 1,32,885) for the cost of forms for the Assam Administration; Excise (Rs. 2,59,045) owing to better settlement of shops and consequent larger advance collections in March 1913, and Miscellaneous (Rs. 1,36,339) on account of larger lapse of deposits. The actual charges were less by Rs. 26,06,869, chiefly under the following heads: Land Revenue (Rs. 1,26,872) owing to smaller expenditure on the improvement of Government Estates; Courts of Law (Rs. 1,65,600) as the expenditure under "Civil and Sessions Courts" and "Mufassal law charges" was smaller than anticipated; Police (Rs. 1,55,141) as the grant for police reforms and river police was not fully utilized; Ports and Pilotage (Rs. 1,15,991), due to larger recoveries by the Agent for Government Consignments, which are taken in reduction of expenditure; Education (Rs. 2,92,171) on account of short expenditure from Imperial grants; Miscellaneous (Rs. 1,31,390) owing to the transfer of the lump provision from this head to meet the charges for grain compensation allowance to the respective Departments; Civil Works in charge of the Public Works Department (Rs. 7,78,245), chiefly on account of lapses of grants for land acquisition for the extension of the Presidency College and School of Tropical Medicine, Calcutta, and lastly under Civil Works in charge of Civil officers (Rs. 7,13,616) owing to non-utilization of the full amount provided for expenditure on sanitation.

(2) REVISED ESTIMATE, 1913-14.

2. The revised estimate for 1913-14, as now passed, on the basis of the actuals of the first nine, and in some cases ten, months of the current year, is compared below with the sanctioned estimate for the year:—

	Sanctioned estimate.	Revised estimate.	Better (+) or worse (—).
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Opening balance ..	2,83,23,000	3,13,30,000	+30,07,000
Revenue receipts ...	5,36,13,000	5,59,31,000	+23,18,000
Adjustments ...	+56,43,000	+57,39,000	+96,000
Total receipts ...	5,92,56,000	6,16,70,000	+24,14,000
GRAND TOTAL ...	8,75,79,000	9,30,00,000	+54,21,000
Total expenditure ...	6,82,09,000	6,25,70,000	+56,39,000
Closing balance ...	1,93,70,000	3,04,30,000	+1,10,60,000

3. The increase under adjustments is due to the additional assignments from Imperial to Provincial Revenues as well as to other changes shown below :—

	Rs.	Rs.
Add—		
Recurring Imperial grant to the Church Missionary Society College, Calcutta	6,000	
Recurring Imperial grant for the improvement of female education...	30,000	
Additional contribution to meet the charges of Lieutenant-Colonel Sutherland's deputation to serological work	5,000	
Contribution ditto of Captain Shingleton Smith's deputation ...	7,000	
Contribution for the cost of forms to Assam Administration ...	89,000	
Contribution for grant to the Chittagong Port	75,000	
		2,12,000
Deduct—		
Special assignment from Provincial to Imperial for repairs to Nizamat Palace, Murshidabad ...	40,000	
Annual assignment from Provincial to Bihar and Orissa for law charges...	15,000	
Annual assignment to Bihar and Orissa for Collegiate and University education	21,000	
Special assignment for making certain alterations to the buildings of the Calcutta Museum for delivery of lectures	2,000	
Omission of the contribution from Bihar and Orissa for fishery experiments	15,000	
Reduction of the assignment from Bihar and Orissa for cost of forms (from Rs. 2,32,000 to Rs. 2,09,000) ...	23,000	
		1,16,000
		96,000

4. The principal fluctuations under the Revenue heads are noticed briefly below. The improvements aggregate Rs. 27,27,000, and are chiefly under the following heads :—

Stamps—(Rs. 1,00,000), due to larger sale of stamps chiefly in Calcutta and principally on account of high prices ruling in the jute trade.

Excise—(Rs. 13,45,000), due to increase in license fees obtained in the settlement of shops and to higher rates of duty on *ganja* and country spirit which came into effect from April 1913.

Assessed Taxes—(Rs. 4,50,000), owing to a general increase in trade profits.

Forests—(Rs. 2,50,000), due to sale of timber previously extracted in Buxa, to the expansion of fuel trade in Kurseong and to better prices obtained for timber in Buxa and Chittagong.

Registration—(Rs. 70,000), due to the increase in the number of registrations.

Courts of Law—(Rs. 1,02,000), due to larger receipts from magisterial fines and from court-fees realized in cash.

Jails—(Rs. 67,000), due to larger sale of manufactured articles.

Scientific and other Minor Departments—(Rs. 87,000), due to larger sale of quinine.

Miscellaneous—(Rs. 87,000), due chiefly to anticipated lapse of deposits at the close of the year and partly to the sale of land to the railway at Chittagong and to the realization of larger audit fees on the completion of arrear audits.

Under the following heads, on the other hand, the revenue fell off, the total decrease being Rs. 4,09,000:—

Land Revenue—(Rs. 1,49,000), on account of suspensions in the districts of Midnapore and Hooghly owing to floods.

Ports and Pilotage—(Rs. 1,60,000), chiefly under Pilotage receipts owing to decrease in the number of vessels.

Irrigation—Minor Works and Navigation—(Rs. 59,000), due to a falling off in the receipts of the Madaripore Bhil Route, on account of concessions granted to passenger steamers and in the Calcutta and Eastern canals on account of storms and a smaller traffic in rice and jute.

5. On the expenditure side the revised estimate shows a total decrease of Rs. 71,46,000, which is mainly accounted for under the following heads:—

Land Revenue—(Rs. 81,000), due to larger savings in the grant under "Salaries," and larger recoveries for partition work.

Excise—(Rs. 40,000), due to the lapse of the provision for reorganization of the department.

Police—(Rs. 1,74,000), due to the lump provisions for police reforms and river police reorganization being only partially utilized.

Education—(Rs. 49,78,000), due to savings in the Imperial grants.

Medical—(Rs. 12,01,000), due to savings in the Imperial grants for sanitation, and medical relief and to the provision for the School of Tropical Medicine being only partially spent.

Scientific and other Minor Departments—(Rs. 1,81,000), due to savings in the grants of the Agricultural Department and Botanic Gardens and also in the Imperial grant for Agriculture and allied objects.

Miscellaneous—(Rs. 2,37,000), due to the adjustment to the appropriate heads of the grants made by His Excellency, and to the transfer of charges for grain allowance to the different departments by reappropriation from the lump provision made under this head.

Civil Works in charge of the Civil Department—(Rs. 1,90,000), due to the transfer of the grant to the Chittagong Port to the head "Ports and Pilotage" and also to savings in the grant for works of sanitary improvement.

On the other hand, there will be a total increase in expenditure of Rs. 15,07,000, of which the most noticeable instances are—

General Administration—(Rs. 1,52,000), due to larger expenditure on His Excellency's tour, initial expenditure on books and furniture for Council Library and to larger expenditure in the Civil Secretariat and Executive Council.

Courts of Law—(Rs. 3,43,000), due to larger expenditure for counsel's fees in connection with the Barisal conspiracy case and to larger expenditure under both Civil and Criminal Courts.

Jails—(Rs. 1,97,000), due to larger expenditure under rations and for purchase of raw materials.

Ports and Pilotage—(Rs. 62,000), owing to the adjustment of the grant to the Chittagong Port under this head.

Superannuation—(Rs. 87,000), due to the special charges for commuted value of pensions.

Irrigation—Major Works—(Rs. 33,000), due to cost of silt-clearance in Range II and Gewankhally supply channel of the Hijili Tidal Canal.

Irrigation—Minor Works and Navigation—(Rs. 64,000), due to expenditure for flood damage repairs.

Civil Works in charge of the Public Works Department—(Rs. 3,70,000), due to additional grant for land acquisition charges for the School of Tropical Medicine and extension of the Presidency College.

6. The net result of these changes is that the closing balance for 1913-14, including the sum of 20 lakhs held in trust for the Calcutta Improvement Scheme, which was estimated in March last at Rs. 1,93,70,000, is now estimated to amount to Rs. 3,04,30,000.

(3) BUDGET ESTIMATE, 1914-15.

7. The opening balance of 1914-15 is the closing balance of 1913-14 and is, therefore, Rs. 3,04,30,000.

8. The estimates for the year, as provisionally approved by the Government of India, adopt Rs. 6,29,95,000 as receipts and Rs. 7,35,93,000 as expenditure and a closing balance of Rs. 1,98,32,000. Out of the special grant of 50 lakhs for the Calcutta Improvement Scheme, which has appeared in the accounts since 1903-04, 30 lakhs have already been paid to the Improvement Trust and 10 lakhs will be paid in 1914-15. Of the estimated closing balance the following are earmarked :—

	Rs.
Minimum balance	20,00,000
Calcutta Improvement Trust	10,00,000
Balance of discretionary grant	5,00,000
Provision promised for dredger in 1914-15 ...	5,00,000
Reorganization of subordinate police and river police in Eastern Bengal (non-recurring) ..	10,50,000
Secondary education (not utilized)	93,000
Popular education (ditto)	27,000
Dacca University (non-recurring)	7,00,000
Ditto savings of recurring grants of 1912-13 and 1913-14	90,000
Hostels outside Calcutta	55,000
Ditto in Calcutta	60,000
Non-recurring grant of 1912-13 out of 75 lakhs ...	27,05,000
Old non-recurring grant	2,81,000
Probable savings in the budget provision for Imperial grants of the Education Department for the year 1914-15	5,00,000
Non-recurring grant of 1912-13 for sanitation out of 20 lakhs	13,25,000
Old non-recurring grant	1,50,000
Probable savings in the budget provision for sanitary grant for the year 1914-15 ...	10,00,000
Bengal Government contribution for the construction of Ranchi Lunatic Asylum ...	25,00,000
Amount earmarked for provincial equipment of the three years 1915-16 to 1917-18 ...	24,00,000
Total ...	1,69,36,000

This leaves a free balance of (Rs. 1,98,32,000—1,69,36,000=) Rs. 28,96,000, which is available for new expenditure in the near future and is not too large a sum to keep in reserve.

9. The total estimated charges for 1914-15 amount to Rs. 7,35,93,000 which is in excess of the income by Rs. 1,05,98,000, owing mainly to the following provisions :—

	Rs.	Rs.
Education—		
Lump provision for non-recurring expenditure out of the Imperial grant made in 1910-11	5,11,000	
Non-recurring grant for the construction of hostels outside Calcutta and Dacca	2,17,000	
Non-recurring grant for the construction of hostels in Calcutta ...	8,70,000	
Non-recurring grant for the construction of hostels for Dacca University	3,00,000	
Lump provision for non-recurring expenditure out of the Imperial grant of 75 lakhs made in 1912-13...	30,00,000	

	Rs.	Rs.
Education—concluded.		
Non-recurring grant, being savings in the recurring grant for popular education for 1912-13 and 1913-14 ...	2,47,000	
Non-recurring grant, being savings in the recurring grant of Rs. 13,20,000 for 1913-14	12,00,000	
	63,45,000	
Deduct probable savings in the above grants	5,00,000	58,45,000
Medical—		
Lump provision for non-recurring expenditure on Sanitation out of the Imperial grant made in 1910-11 and 7¼ lakhs made in 1911-12 ...	6,83,000	
Non-recurring grant, being savings in the recurring grant of 5 lakhs for 1913-14	4,50,000	
Non-recurring grant, being savings in the non-recurring grant of Rs. 6,75,000 provided for in the budget for 1913-14 out of the Imperial assignment of 20 lakhs ...	5,50,000	
Non-recurring grant, being savings in the recurring grant of 9 lakhs for 1912-13 and 1913-14	2,00,000	
	18,83,000	
Deduct probable savings in the above grants	10,00,000	8,83,000
Balance of the lump grant for Medical Relief	...	80,000
Balance of the Imperial grant for tropical medicine		1,00,000
Equipment for the School of Tropical Medicine	...	50,000
Balance of the Imperial grant of 2 lakhs made in 1911-12 and 1913-14 for Agriculture and allied objects	52,000	
Balance of the Imperial grant made in 1913-14 for Cinchona Department	30,000	
Provincial allotment for non-recurring expenditure of the Agricultural Department	1,00,000	1,82,000
Portion of Imperial assignment for discretionary grant	...	6,40,000
Grant to the Calcutta Improvement Trust	...	10,00,000
Larger grant for civil works in charge of the Public Works Department ...	...	23,19,000
Additional grant for the management of Government Estates ...	..	50,000
Purchase of a steam-launch for the Collector of Faridpur	...	40,000

10. A schedule is attached showing the new schemes, costing individually more than Rs. 5,000, which have been included in the budget. The non-recurring charges on account of these schemes amount to Rs. 15,21,540, and the recurring charges to Rs. 15,88,001. The budget includes, in

addition, the following new schemes, of a more or less petty nature, which are individually estimated to cost Rs. 5,000 or less :—

(*a*) NON-RECURRING CHARGES.

	Rs.	Rs.
Excise—		
Purchase of Hydrometers ...	2,000	
		2,000
Forests—		
Construction of an Inspection Bungalow with out-houses near Raman in Singallai Range, Darjeeling ...	2,000	
Construction of a rest-house with out-houses at Gadadhar, Buxa Division	4,200	
Construction of an Inspection Bungalow near Satkania, Chittagong Division	2,000	
Construction of new range office for Chakaria Sundarbans Range ...	1,600	
Construction of quarters for Range Officer, etc., in Chittagong Division	1,900	
Construction of a new rest-house in the Chittagong Hill Tracts Division	2,500	
Forest Settlement and compensation for lands and right, Jalpaiguri ...	4,000	
		18,200
Registration—		
Additional grant for record racks ...	2,000	
Purchase of typewriters	3,000	
		5,000
General Administration—		
Purchase of books for the Library of the Legislative Council ...	...	5,000
Law and Justice—Courts of Law—		
Preserving memorial portraits in the High Court	...	2,000
Police—		
Calcutta Police Training School ...	4,878	
Additional Police for Government Dockyard	508	
Steam cutter for Calcutta River Police (Government share)	3,333	
Purchase of bicycles for training school	3,060	
Construction of house-boat for Superintendent of Police, Noakhali ...	3,500	
Purchase of watchman's recorders ...	1,430	
Purchase of ponies for District Police	600	
Purchase of surveying instruments	4,000	
Do 3 panshi boats ...	1,890	
		23,199

	Rs.	Rs.
Education—		
Purchase of typewriters for the Assistant Director of Public Instruction	1,000	
Special charges for compiling a new catalogue of Sanskrit manuscripts	350	
Special charges for the purchase of apparatus for secondary schools ...	2,000	
Purchase of furniture for the new school building, Middle Vernacular School, Faridpur ...	600	
		3,950
Medical—		
Replacement of old instruments ...	1,000	
Purchase of typewriters ...	2,000	
		3,000
Scientific and other Minor Departments—		
Grant to the Birch Hill Park for repairs of roads	1,000	
Emigration bungalow at Goalundo	3,000	
Dacca Poultry Farm	700	
Nursery at Bogra for Deshi seed ...	5,000	
Extension of Kaiitha nursery into a central nursery	5,000	
		14,700
Stationery and Printing—		
Cost of removing forms from Dullanda to the Jail Press ...	...	2,000
Civil Works (Civil)—		
Repairs of cattle-boats in Midnapore	300	
Do. the masonry approaches of the Sambhuganj-Jamalpur ferry ghâts	2,175	
		2,475
(*b*) RECURRING CHARGES.		
Excise—		
Local allowance of Bureau officer		900
Registration—		
Revision of cadre of Sub-Registrars	4,500	
Increase of allowances to the probationers	1,800	
Cost of remitting salaries, etc., in the Western Bengal districts ...	3,000	
		9,300
General Administration—		
Grant of local allowance of Rs. 100 to one assistant of the Legislative Department who is to do the Council work	1,200	
Librarian for the Library of the Legislative Council	600	
Increase of allowances to the four probationers of the Presidency Commissioner's office and appointment of three probationers for the Dacca Commissioner's office ...	1,020	
		2,820

	Rs.	Rs.
Law and Justice—Courts of Law—		
Establishment for the Inspector of Judicial offices	936	
Three Assistant Government Pleaders for Serajganj, Madaripur and Brahmanberia	1,080	
Revision of the pay of the Bailiffs, Calcutta Small Cause Court	2,412	
		4,428
Law and Justice—Jails—		
Increased rate of water-supply charged for against the jails at Hooghly, Berhampore, Darjeeling and Mymensingh		2,900
Police—		
Feed and keep of Police dogs	600	
Entertainment of additional coolies and sweepers for the Police Hospital, Calcutta	768	
Entertainment of a sergeant for River Police, Calcutta	2,289	
Additional constables for the Sealdah Police Court	840	
Increase of the cadre of the Sealdah Railway Police	2,358	
Entertainment of a 3rd Circle Inspector and his staff for the Sadar Subdivision of Dacca ...	3,348	
Cost of the pilot engine to be employed during His Excellency's tour	4,000	
Substitution of a Sub-Inspector in the Police Training College, Sarda, for the 2nd Pandit	930	
Cost of force for patrolling the railway line near Ondal and Raniganj	4,385	
Introduction of station boat system, Bakarganj ...	2,808	
Reconstitution of town beat system at Pirojpur ...	1,040	
Reconstitution of town police at Barisal ...	1,146	
		24,512
Ports and Pilotage—		
Lump provision for additional establishment for increased out-door work of the office of the Agent for Government Consignments ...		2,400
Education—		
Appointment of Sonthal Sub-Inspectors ...	1,200	
Personal allowance of two Inspectors of Schools ...	4,200	
Increase of pay of existing maulvis and appointment of additional maulvis	2,650	
Additional Professor of Mathematics, Presidency College	2,400	
Additional Laboratory Assistant, Civil Engineering College, Sibpur	900	
Enhanced boarding allowance of the Victoria Boys' School, Kurseong	4,950	
Additional masters and mistresses for Mymensingh and Chittagong Girls' Schools	4,068	
Appointment of a games mistress, Dow Hill Girls' School, Kurseong, and an additional teacher for the Faizunissa Girls' School, Comilla ...	1,300	
Appointment of additional pandits and maulvis owing to the conversion of certain *guru*-training schools to *mianji*-training schools ...	1,351	
Two additional pupil-teachers for the Serampore Weaving School	1,200	
Increase in rewards and stipends to Sanskrit *tols*	2,400	
Travelling expenses of teachers to Kurseong for manual training	2,100	
Friendly gathering of teachers and parents, etc. ...	1,400	
		30,119

	Rs.	Rs.
Medical—		
Revision of Civil Surgeons' offices	2,000	
Increase of staff allowance, Military Assistant Surgeon, General Hospital	2,000	
Additional teacher for compounder class, Campbell School	840	
Additional Sub-Assistant Surgeons, Campbell Hospital	1,800	
Allowance to the Civil Surgeon, 24-Parganas, for the charge of the Voluntary Venereal Hospital, Bhowanipur	1,800	
Appointment of an Obstetric Registrar for the Eden Hospital, Medical College	1,200	
Establishment for the Surnomoyi Hostel, Medical College (full charge now paid instead of one-half)	1,770	
Personal allowance to the Deputy Superintendent, Berhampore Lunatic Asylum	1,200	
Increase of pay of the keeper establishment of the Berhampore Lunatic Asylum	1,800	
Extra servants for paying-patients, Berhampore Lunatic Asylum	1,000	
	——	15,410
Scientific and other Minor Departments—		
Provision for three Veterinary Assistants ...	1,080	
Additional Agricultural supervisors ...	4,800	
Provision for overseer of Rangpur Dairy Farm ...	1,140	
Additional overseer, Botanical Garden, Sibpur ...	840	
Personal allowance of an overseer of the Cinchona Plantation	180	
Appointment of an additional Inspector of Factories	1,800	
Establishment for registration of steamer-borne trade at Bhairab Bazar, Mymensingh ...	1,200	
Establishment for registration of traffic passing over inland wharves	1,680	
Allowance to the Civil Surgeon of Jalpaiguri in connection with the Jalpaiguri Labour Act, 1912	1,200	
Revision of establishment, Co-operative Credit Societies Department	3,240	
Provision for a head-clerk in the office of the Deputy Director of Fisheries	720	
	——	21,480
Stationery and Printing—		
House allowance for the Assistant Manager of Forms	720	
House allowance of Engineer, new Central Jail Press	600	
	——	1,320
Miscellaneous—		
Contribution for new telegraph lines for the Police Department	...	4,800

PART II.—Detailed remarks on the Budget for 1914-15.

RECEIPTS.

11. *Land Revenue.*—The total collections in 1912-13 amounted to Rs. 2,79,87,156, and the estimate for 1914-15 as provisionally passed by the Government of India, is Rs. 2,96,64,000, against Rs. 2,80,42,000 the revised estimate for 1913-14. The estimate includes Rs. 20,24,000 for recoveries of Survey and Settlement charges against Rs. 10,34,000 provided on the same account in the revised estimate for 1913-14.

12. The estimated provincial share of Land Revenue is calculated as follows :—

	Estimate, 1913-14.	Revised estimate, 1913-14.	Estimate, 1914-15.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Gross Land Revenue ...	2,83,88,000	2,80,42,000	2,96,64,000
Deduct—Estimated collections from Government Estates (wholly Provincial) ...	44,32,000	43,90,000	47,00,000
Deduct—Recovery of cost of maintenance of boundary pillars (wholly Provincial)	.....	2,000	2,000
Deduct—Recoveries of Survey and Settlement charges (wholly Imperial) ...	11,22,000	10,34,000	20,24,000
Total Deduction ...	55,54,000	54,26,000	67,26,000
Net amount divisible between Imperial and Provincial revenues	2,28,34,000	2,26,16,000	2,29,38,000
Provincial share, one-half ...	1,14,17,000	1,13,08,000	1,14,69,000
Add—Collections from Government estates (wholly Provincial)	44,32,000	43,90,000	47,00,000
Add—Recovery of cost of maintenance of boundary pillars (wholly Provincial)	.....	2,000	2,000
Total Provincial ...	1,58,49,000	1,57,00,000	1,61,71,000
Add—Adjustments as in paragraph below ...	56,43,000	57,39,000	57,84,000
Total Provincial receipts	2,14,92,000	2,14,39,000	2,19,55,000

13. *Land Revenue Adjustments.*—The estimate includes the following assignments from Imperial Revenues :—

	Rs.	Rs.
Contribution for Famine Relief Scheme	60,000	
Grant to the Calcutta Improvement Trust for 60 years	1,50,000	
Recurring assignment in connection with remission of appropriations from Public Works Cess ...	24,93,000	
Recurring grant for sanitation ...	5,00,000	
Contribution to meet charges of Lieutenant-Colonel Sutherland's deputation for serological enquiry	25,000	
Grant of one-half of the salaries of Health Officers in municipalities ...	39,000	
Contribution to meet the cost of Deputy Sanitary Commissioners ...	19,000	
Recurring assignment for the Belgachia Veterinary College ...	30,000	
Contribution from Bihar and Orissa in connection with Fishery Department	11,000	
Recurring grant for Dacca University	45,000	
Recurring grant for popular education	9,25,000	
Recurring grant for aided English secondary schools	1,50,000	
Assignment for remission of certain recoveries from local bodies ...	26,000	

	Rs.	Rs.
Assignment in connection with further scientific research for Dr. J. C. Bose for 3 years ...	9,000	
Recurring grant to the Church Missionary Society College,—Calcutta	6,000	
Recurring grant for the extension of education among poorer classes of the domiciled community ...	40,000	
Recurring grant for the improvement of female education	30,000	
Recurring grant for the development of the work of the Calcutta University	65,000	
Further recurring grant for education	13,20,000	
Further assignment for education ...	1,50,000	
Assignment for the cost of forms, etc., for the Bihar and Orissa Government	2,32,000	
Assignment for the cost of forms, etc., for the Assam Administration ...	1,29,000	
Assignment for grant to the Chittagong Port Fund	75,000	
Contribution for recovery of cost of transmission of records by revised procedure introduced by the Court-fees Act	6,000	
Contributions for pensions of title-holders	3,000	
Recurring grant for the amalgamation of the clerical establishment of the Art Section of the Indian Museum with the Calcutta School of Art ...	1,000	
Assignment for traffic registration office, Bhairab Bazar	1,000	
Contribution from Bihar and Orissa towards pay of electric staff ...	8,000	
		65,48,000

The estimate also includes the following assignments from Provincial to Imperial Revenues :—

	Rs.	Rs.
Recurring fixed adjusting entry under the terms of the Settlement	7,28,000	
Recurring grant to Bihar and Orissa Government for grants to Colleges	21,000	
Recurring grant to Bihar and Orissa for law charges formerly paid by this Government	15,000	
		7,64,000

The net assignment from Imperial Revenues is Rs. 65,48,000—7,64,000 =Rs 57,84,000.

14. *Stamps.*—The budget estimate of the total revenue from "Stamps" for 1913-14 was passed by the Government of India for Rs. 2,14,00,000. The actuals in 1912-13 amounted to Rs. 2,07,43,853, and those of the first nine months of 1913-14 exclusive of receipts under the Calcutta Improvement Act, exceeded the figures of the corresponding period of the preceding year by Rs. 7,17,000. In view of these figures, and allowing for the adjustment of receipts from the sale of unified stamps between the Postal and the Stamp Departments, the revised estimate for 1913-14 has been passed for Rs. 2,16,00,000. Allowing for a progressive increase of 7 lakhs the estimate for 1914-15 has been placed at Rs. 2,23,00,000. The provincial share is one-half, and amounts to Rs. 1,08,00,000 for 1913-14 and Rs. 1,11,50,000 for 1914-15.

15. *Excise.*—The total collections under this head in 1912-13 amounted to Rs. 1,37,59,045 and the estimate for 1913-14 was passed by the Government of India for Rs. 1,38,55,000. The actuals of the first ten months of 1913-14 exceeded those of the corresponding period of last year by Rs. 13,84,000, and the revised estimate for 1913-14 has been passed for

Rs. 1,52,00,000. The increase is chiefly due to higher license fees obtained in the settlement of shops in February and March 1913 and also partly to the increase in the rate of duty on country spirits. There will be no settlement in Calcutta this year, and it is expected that the raising of duty will diminish the receipts from the consumption of liquor; as steps are being taken to check the consumption of opium and charas, it is thought inadvisable to provide for an increase of more than 6 lakhs in the estimate for next year. The budget estimate for 1914-15 has accordingly been placed at Rs 1,58,00,000.

16. *Provincial Rates.*—The collections from Public Works Cess are now being surrendered to District Boards. Under "General Rates" for the management of Private Estates, the estimate of receipts for 1914-15 is Rs. 1,18,000 against Rs. 1,23,000 the revised estimate for 1913-14 and Rs. 1,06,144, the actuals of 1912-13.

17. *Assessed Taxes.*—The receipts from Income-tax for 1913-14 were estimated at Rs. 56,00,000 The actual collections in 1912-13 amounted to Rs. 55,51,652, while those in the first ten months of 1913-14 exceeded the figures of the corresponding period of last year by Rs 9,25,000, and the revised estimate for 1913-14 has been placed at Rs. 65,00,000. The large increase in ten months was due to some of the Coal and Jute Companies and most of the Banks having shown large increases in their profits. In view of the unusual increase in 1913-14 it is not expected that the receipts in 1914-15 will be as high as in 1913-14 and the estimate has been placed at Rs. 61,00,000. The provincial share is one-half and amounts to Rs. 30,50,000.

18. *Forests.*—The budget estimate for 1913-14 was Rs. 14,00,000 against Rs. 16,00,601, the actuals of 1912-13. The actual collections in the first ten months of 1913-14 show an increase of Rs. 1,27,000. The revised estimate for 1913-14 has been placed at Rs. 16,50,000. The increase over the budget is due to sale of timber previously extracted in Buxa where departmental extraction was given up and to expansion of the fuel trade in Kurseong and to the receipt of better sale prices than anticipated for timber in Buxa and Chittagong. The estimate for 1914-15 has been passed for Rs. 16,00,000.

19. *Registration.*—The receipts under this head for 1913-14 were estimated at Rs. 19,00,000. The actuals in 1912-13 amounted to Rs. 18,23,161, while the collections in the first nine months of 1913-14 show an increase of Rs. 1,24,000 as compared with those of the corresponding period of the preceding year. In view of these figures the revised estimate for 1913-14 has been placed at Rs. 19,70,000 and allowing for a normal increase of Rs. 80,000 the estimate for 1914-15 has been passed for Rs. 20,50,000.

20. *Interest.*—The estimate of loans, as submitted to the Government of India, provides for a return in the way of interest during 1914-15 of Rs. 4,87,000 as shown below :—

	Rs.
Interest on advances to cultivators, etc.	62,000
" " " Co-operative Credit Societies	3,000
" " drainage and embankment advances ...	14,000
" " loans to landholders	1,74,000
" " " to municipalities and district Boards, etc.	2,20,000
Miscellaneous	14,000
Total ...	4,87,000

21. *Law and Justice—Courts of Law.*—The total collections under this head amounted to Rs. 8,14,901 and the estimate for 1913-14 was passed by the Government of India for Rs. 7,65,000. The actuals of the first nine months of 1913-14 show an increase of Rs. 40,000 over those of the corresponding period of the previous year, and the revised estimate for 1913-14 has been passed for Rs. 8,67,000. The increase is chiefly due to unusually large receipts from Magisterial fines. The estimate for 1914-15 is Rs. 8,95,000.

22. *Jails.*—The actuals in 1912-13 amounted to Rs. 7,03,353 while the receipts in the first nine months of 1913-14 show an increase of Rs. 31,000

over those of the corresponding period of last year chiefly for larger cash sales of manufactured articles. The budget estimate for 1913-14 has accordingly been raised from Rs. 6,59,000 to Rs. 7,26,000 in the revised estimate, and the estimate for 1914-15 has been passed for Rs. 7,23,000.

23. *Police.*—The budget estimate for 1913-14 was Rs. 1,62,000. This has been raised to Rs. 1,65,000 in the revised estimate with reference to the actuals of the first nine months of the current year. The estimate for 1914-15 is Rs. 1,77,000.

24. *Ports and Pilotage.*—The budget estimate for 1913-14 was Rs. 18,00,000. This has been reduced to Rs. 16,40,000 in the revised estimate with reference to the actuals of the first nine months of the year, which show a decrease of Rs. 75,000 as compared with the figures for the corresponding period of last year. The decrease is under "Pilotage receipts" and is due to a reduction in the number of vessels entering and leaving the Calcutta port, and specially to a certain number of vessels entering and leaving the port in ballast, thus affecting the earnings, as such vessels are of a draught much less than that of vessels clearing with cargo. In view of the increase in the "Pilotage receipts" in the past, the estimate for 1914-15 has been passed for Rs 17,16,000 against Rs. 16,95,556, the actuals of 1911-12, and Rs. 17,52,191, the actuals of 1912-13.

25. *Education.*—The budget estimate for 1913-14 was Rs. 7,51,000. This has been raised to Rs. 8,15,000 in the revised estimates with reference to the actuals of the first nine months of the year. The improvement is mainly due to increases in fees from Government Colleges and Schools—General. The estimate for 1914-15 is Rs. 8,62,000.

26. *Medical.*—The budget estimate for 1913-14 was Rs. 3,76,000 against Rs. 4,26,733, the actuals of 1912-13. The actuals of 1912-13 include Rs. 50,000 credited as a special contribution from the Indian Research Fund Association for carrying out experiments in jungle-clearing in suitable localities. The actual collections in the current year, however, show increases chiefly under "Medical College fees" and under "Medicine sold by Civil Surgeons," and the revised estimate for 1913-14 has been passed for Rs. 4,00,000. The estimate for 1914-15 is Rs. 3,97,000.

27. *Scientific and other Minor Departments.*—The estimate for 1913-14 was Rs. 2,26,000 against Rs. 2,17,931, the actuals of 1912-13. The collections from the sale of quinine and cinchona in the first eight months amounted to Rs. 1,07,000 against Rs. 21,000 in the corresponding period of the previous year. The revised estimate under this sub-head has been raised from Rs. 1,07,000 to Rs. 2,00,000, and the total estimate under this head has been raised from Rs. 2,26,000 to Rs. 3,13,000. The estimate for 1914-15 has been placed at Rs. 2,72,000 as it is not expected that the demand for quinine in that year will be as high as in 1913-14.

28. *Receipts in aid of superannuation.*—The estimate for 1913-14 was Rs. 12,000, but in the revised estimate this has been reduced to Rs. 38,000 in view of the actual collections of the first nine months of the year. The estimate for 1914-15 has been placed at Rs. 39,000.

29. *Stationery and Printing.*—The estimate for 1913-14 was Rs. 1,30,000 against Rs. 1,20,103, the actuals of 1912-13. The actuals of eight months of 1913-14, however, show an increase of Rs. 6,000 over those of the corresponding period of last year, and the revised estimate for 1913-14 has been placed at Rs. 1,25,000. The estimate for 1914-15 is Rs. 1,20,000.

30. *Miscellaneous.*—The estimate under this head for 1913-14 was Rs. 5,91,000 against Rs. 7,72,339, the actuals of 1912-13, which included very heavy receipts (Rs. 6,38,026) from "Unclaimed deposits." These deposits, which are likely to lapse at the close of the year, may amount to Rs. 5,35,000, and the total revised estimate under this head has been placed at Rs. 6,78,000 as the sale-proceeds of tents from Government House stock at Dacca realized Rs. 5,634, and the sale of land to the railway at Chittagong brought in Rs. 11,540. The estimate for 1914-15 has been passed for Rs. 5,92,000 as the estimate under "Unclaimed deposits" has been placed at Rs. 4,80,000.

31. *Irrigation—Major Works (Direct Receipts).*—The estimate for 1913-14 was Rs. 2,80,000 against Rs. 2,73,918, the actuals of 1912-13. The actual collections in the first eight months of 1913-14 show a decrease of

Rs. 8,000, chiefly owing to the silting up of the Hijili Tidal Canal, which reduced the navigation receipts. The water-rates in the Midnapore Canal are also expected to fall short owing to reduction in the irrigated area, and the revised estimate has been placed at Rs. 2,50,000. An increase in the irrigated area in the Midnapore Canal is expected in 1914-15, and the estimate has been passed for Rs. 2,67,000. The provincial share is one-half and amounts to Rs. 1,25,000 and Rs. 1,33,000 in 1913-14 and 1914-15, respectively.

32. *Irrigation—Minor Works and Navigation in charge of the Public Works Department.*—The estimate for 1913-14 was Rs. 6,85,000 against Rs. 6,40,210, the actuals of 1912-13. The actual collections in the first nine months of 1913-14 show a decrease of Rs. 74,000 as compared with the figures for the corresponding period of 1912-13 chiefly in the Madaripore Bheel route on account of concessions granted to steamer companies and in the Calcutta and Eastern Canals owing to the deficiency in the rice and jute traffic. The revised estimate has been reduced to Rs. 5,66,000. Receipts are expected on account of the levy of tolls on the Magrahat drainage from 1914-15, and the estimate has been passed for Rs. 6,10,000. The provincial share is one-half and amounts to Rs. 2,83,000 for 1913-14 and Rs. 3,05,000 for 1914-15.

33. *Civil Works in charge of the Public Works Department.*—The budget estimate for 1913-14 was Rs. 3,69,000 against Rs. 3,85,036, the actuals of 1912-13. The actual receipts in the first nine months of 1913-14 show an increase of Rs. 35,000 over those of the corresponding period of last year, and the revised estimate for 1913-14 has been placed at Rs. 1,14,000. The increase is due to sale-proceeds of certain buildings. Excluding the special receipts in 1913-14 the estimate for 1914-15 has been passed for Rs. 3,85,000, the actuals of 1912-13.

EXPENDITURE.

34. *Refunds and Drawbacks.*—The total provincial expenditure in 1914-15 is estimated at Rs. 1,35,000 against Rs. 1,41,000, the budget estimate for 1913-14, and Rs. 1,44,035, the actuals of 1912-13. The estimates under this head are based, as usual, on the average actuals of the previous three years, excluding special payments. The actuals of 1910-11 included a special payment of Rs. 22,500 and those of 1911-12 a payment of Rs. 6,500 under "Land Revenue." The actuals of 1912-13 also included special payments of Rs. 6,000 and Rs. 8,000 under "Stamps." The revised estimate for the current year has been placed at Rs. 1,38,000.

35. *Assignments and Compensations.*—The estimate for 1913-14 was Rs. 33,000. The revised estimate has, however, been raised to Rs. 45,000 with reference to the actuals of the first nine months against Rs. 50,905, the actuals of 1912-13. The estimate for 1914-15 is Rs. 43,000. The variations are due to payment of fluctuating *malikana*.

36. *Land Revenue.*—The total provincial expenditure for 1914-15 is estimated at Rs. 35,33,000 against Rs. 32,64,000, the revised, and Rs. 33,48,000, the budget estimate, for 1913-14 as shown below :—

	1913-14.		1914-15.
	Budget.	Revised.	Budget.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
(1) Charges of District Administration ...	26,50,000	26,09,000	27,01,000
(2) Charges on account of Land Revenue collections	10,000	13,000	10,000
(3) Management of Government Estates ...	4,72,000	4,41,000	5,68,000
(4) Survey and Settlement ...	1,82,000	1,75,000	2,13,000
(5) Land Records ...	33,000	26,000	41,000
(6) Charges on account of fishery collection ...	1,000	.....	.....
Total ...	33,48,000	32,64,000	35,33,000

Under (1) provision has been made for an Additional District Magistrate of the 24-Parganas and for the consequent Additional Joint-Magistrate, for revision of the Kanungo establishment, for the purchase of a launch for the District Officer, Faridpur, for the purchase of iron safes for district and sub-divisional treasuries, larger provision for diet and travelling allowance to witnesses, law charges, and remuneration to copyists. The estimate under (3) includes special additional grants of Rs. 50,000 for the improvement of Government Estates and Rs. 67,000 for the reclamation of Sundarbans in the district of Bakarganj. The estimate under (4) amounts to Rs. 2,13,000, and includes Rs. 43,000 for the new survey school at Comilla. The variations under (5) are due to the debit of cost of the Director of Land Records to the different Imperial settlement operations. The estimate for 1914-15 includes Rs. 5,000 for the reorganization of his office.

37. *Stamps.*—The sanctioned estimate for 1913-14 was Rs. 7,25,000, which has been raised to Rs. 7,27,000 in the revised owing to the payment of heavier charges for the sale of general stamps against savings in the grant for stamp paper. The budget for 1914-15 is Rs. 7,52,000 and follows the revised, but provides for larger issue of stamp paper from Central Stores.

38. *Excise.*—The total expenditure for 1913-14 was originally estimated at Rs. 6,69,000, but in the revised estimate this has been reduced to Rs. 6,29,000 owing to the lapse of the lump provision of Rs. 50,000 for the reorganization of the department. The budget for 1914-15 is Rs. 8,77,000, and includes Rs. 1,50,000 for the reorganization, Rs. 50,000 for the construction of boats and launches and Rs. 50,000 for the construction of quarters.

39. *Provincial Rates.*—The cost of collections of the cesses, and the valuation and revaluation charges will in the first instance be incurred by the District Officers, but ultimately recovered from District Boards while transferring the cesses to those bodies so that nothing will fall on the general revenues.

40. *Assessed Taxes.*—The budget grant for 1913-14 is Rs. 1,57,000, but Rs. 1,51,000 has been adopted as the estimate for 1914-15. The decrease is due to the amalgamation of the establishment of the Board of Revenue with the Civil Secretariat.

41. *Forests.*—The sanctioned estimate for 1913-14 was Rs 6,76,000, but in the revised estimate this has been reduced to Rs. 6,40,000, with reference to the actuals of the first nine months of the year. The decrease is due to the full complement of officers and executive establishment not being employed. The budget for 1914-15 amounts to Rs. 7,27,000, and includes the following items besides small items mentioned in paragraph 10 above :—

	Rs.
Reconstruction of Divisional Officer's bungalow at Kalimpong	8,000
Purchase of two elephants for the Chittagong Hill Tracts Division	6,000
Construction of four accommodation boats and two water-boats for the Sundarbans	11,600
Provision for new boilers for the launches *Hawk* and *Helen Grey* of the Sundarbans Division	10,500
Reconstruction of Divisional Officer's bungalow at Buxa Duars	8,000

42. *Registration.*—The estimate for 1913-14 is Rs. 11,16,000, but in the revised this has been reduced to Rs. 11,01,000 owing to the delay in the reorganization of the office establishment of the District Sub-Registrars. The budget for 1914-15 is Rs. 11,99,000 and includes the following items :—

	Rs.
Registrar of Joint Stock Companies and his office	21,858
Lump provision for increasing the leave reserve	10,900
Lump provision for increase of salary of District Sub-Registrars	8,10

	Rs.
Lump provision for revision of the cadre of Sub-Registrars	4,500
Provision for revision of the ministerial establishments in the head-quarters offices	45,610
Increased grant for record racks ...	2,000
Grant for the purchase of type-writers ...	3,000
Provision for cost of remitting salaries, etc., in Western Bengal districts	3,000

43. *Interest on Ordinary Debt.*—This is interest payable from the Provincial Revenues to the Imperial Government on the amount advanced by the latter to the Provincial Government for loans to cultivators, under the Agriculturists' Loans and Land Improvements Loans Acts, for advances to Co-operative Societies, for advances on drainage and embankment schemes, for loans to notabilities and to municipalities and other public corporations (excluding Presidency Corporations).

44. *General Administration.*—The estimate for 1913-14 was Rs. 23,02,000, but in the revised estimate this has been raised to Rs. 24,54,000. The increase is chiefly for larger expenditure on His Excellency's tour, for deputation of several special officers in the Civil Secretariat, for the purchase of books and furniture for the Council Library and Legislative Department and larger expenditure on Tour charges and contingencies of the members of the Executive Council. The estimate for 1914-15 amounts to Rs. 23,53,000, and includes Rs. 19,627 for the maintenance and improvements of the railway saloon carriages, larger grant for allowances and contingencies of the offices of the Private Secretary to Governor and the Military Secretary to Governor according to requirements, Rs. 5,000 for allowances to reporters and Rs. 5,000 for the purchase of books for the Council Library.

45. *Law and Justice—Courts of Law.*—The budget estimate for 1913-14 was Rs. 96,10,000, but the revised estimate has been raised to Rs. 99,53,000 with reference to the actual charges of the first nine months of the year, which were chiefly enhanced by the expenditure on law charges and fees to counsel in connection with the trial of Damodar Deara suit in Burdwan and the Barisal conspiracy case and debit of grain compensation charges by transfer from "32—Miscellaneous." The estimate for 1914-15 is Rs. 99,53,000 and includes the following provisions :—

	Rs.
An Additional Judge for High Court ...	48,000
Establishment for the Additional Judge, High Court	5,148
New Inspector of Judicial offices	18,000
Three short-hand writers in the High Court ...	4,500
Rewiring the electric installation of High Court ...	10,000
Lump provision for the preservation of memorial portraits	2,000
Additional grant for copying special appeals and pleadings	5,000
Additional grant for fees to pleaders in criminal cases	70,000
Additional establishment for the new Police Courts, Calcutta	6,048
Reorganization of the Calcutta Small Cause Court ...	10,075
Lump provision for increase of pay of the last grade of Munsifs	21,000
Increased provision for the appointment of additional Sub-Deputy Collectors in connection with the Chaukidari Circle System	25,000
Establishment of a court and detention house for juvenile offenders	17,400

46. *Jails.*—The estimate for 1913-14 is Rs. 20,79,000, but in the revised estimate this has been raised to Rs. 22,76,000 with reference to the actuals of the first nine months of the year. The increase is mainly due to larger dieting charges and partly also to larger purchase of raw materials in the Presidency Jail at Alipore. The estimate for 1914-15 is Rs. 20,76,000. It

includes smaller provision for purchase of raw materials, but provides Rs. 40,000 for the revision of warders' service and Rs. 10,000 for new machinery for the Dacca Central Jail.

47. *Police.*—The following table shows the figures under this head :—

HEADS.	Actuals, 1912-13.	1913-14. Budget.	1913-14. Revised.	Estimate, 1914-15.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Presidency Police ...	14,49,110	16,60,000	16,15,000	17,23,000
Superintendence ...	2,22,171	2,25,000	2,69,000	2,62,000
Criminal Investigation Department ...	4,06,163	3,83,000	4,30,000	4,95,000
District Executive Force	56,96,249	67,22,000	64,74,000	80,74,000
Village Police ...	19,874	23,000	16,000	30,000
Special " ...	3,01,053	2,51,000	2,64,000	2,42,000
Railway " ...	3,01,972	3,16,000	3,36,000	3,19,000
Cattle-pounds ...	134	300	200	250
Refunds	3,133	1,700	3,800	2,750
Lump deduction ...	.....	.....	.....	—2,50,000
Total ...	83,99,859	95,82,000	94,08,000	1,08,98,000

In view of the actuals of the first nine months of 1913-14, the revised estimate has been placed at Rs. 94,08,000. The decrease is due to smaller expenditure on Presidency Police and to partial utilization of lump provisions for Police reforms and River Police reorganization. The estimate for 1914-15 is Rs. 1,08,98,000. It includes the following charges :—

		Rs.
Provision for raising the reserve of the Calcutta Police to its authorized strength ...		65,000
Additional Police force for Criminal Investigation Department and Special Branch, Calcutta ...		12,258
Conveyance allowance of Deputy Commissioners of Police, Calcutta		5,625
Additional Sub-Inspectors for Entaily and Chitpur thanas		5,280
Additional Police staff for decentralization of the Police Court, Lal Bazar		12,680
Additional staff, etc., for the Calcutta Police Training School		33,155
Additional Police staff to guard the Government Dockyard, Kidderpore		6,000
Additional Police staff to regulate traffic at the landing stages of the Port Commissioners' ferry service (total cost)		9,350
Provision for a steam-cutter and crew for the River Police, Calcutta (total cost)		12,805
Revision of the superior Police cadre ...		33,600
Reorganization of the subordinate Police in the Eastern Bengal districts.	Recurring ...	91,470
	Non-recurring	3,13,385

	Rs.
Regrading of Sub-Inspectors and Head-constables in Eastern Bengal districts	37,800
Lump provision for increase of pay and privileges of Head-constables and Constables ...	4,75,000
Allowances to Police officers in certain portions of Jalpaiguri and Darjeeling on account of expenses of living and other disadvantages ...	14,721
Purchase of Charitable Dispensary at Mymensingh for accommodation of Police	60,000
Reorganization of the River Police in the Eastern Bengal districts. Recurring ...	71,512
Reorganization of the River Police in the Eastern Bengal districts. Non-recurring	4,50,265
Extra cost in connection with the division of the East Indian Railway jurisdiction between Bengal and Bihar	6,278
Strengthening of the armed police reserve ...	13,934
Establishment of armed posts at Madaripur ...	12,168
Increase of pay of Sergeants	9,000
Increase of cadre of Deputy Superintendents ...	17,100
Strengthening of head-quarters treasury guards ...	6,386
Armed posts in the Dacca Division	27,720
Raising the conveyance allowance of subordinate police officers	42,900
Strengthening of the armed police detachments in subdivisions of Western Bengal	20,220
Reorganization of the Military Police	79,197
Establishment of new police-stations at Asansol ...	23,144
Supply of mosquito nets	17,600
Ditto iron cots	10,000
Station boat scheme	12,878
Settling of *Karwal nuts* of the Rajshahi Division under the Criminal Tribes Act	26,600
Increase of pay of dafadars	18,314
Purchase of elephants	5,000
Supply of boxes to police officers for safe custody of case diaries	4,527
Provision for completion of launch for the Deputy Inspector-General of Police, Dacca	18,135
Construction of a launch for the Assistant Superintendent of Police, Munshiganj ...	38,938
Alterations to the steam-launch *Warden* ...	8,090
Temporary force for the Criminal Intelligence Branch	75,851
Appointment of a fourth Range Deputy Inspector-General	25,600

48. *Ports and Pilotage.*—The estimate for 1913-14 was Rs. 13,74,000, but in the revised estimate this has been raised to Rs. 14,36,000 for the adjustment under this head of the grant of Rs. 1,50,000 made to the Chittagong Port, which was estimated under Civil Works in charge of civil officers. Against this addition a large reduction in expenditure is expected in the grant under "Pilotage establishment" owing to the decline in pilotage receipts. The estimate for 1914-15 amounts to Rs. 15,39,000, and includes larger grant for pilotage establishment due to anticipated trade activity as well as the payment of Rs. 1,50,000 to the Chittagong Port Fund.

49. *Education.*—The following table shows the charges under this head since 1909-10 :—

Heads.	Actuals.				1913-14.		1914-15.
	1909-10.	1910-11.	1911-12.	1912-13.	Budget.	Revised.	Budget.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs
University ...	1,03,000	96,000	66,028	5,15,000	1,18,500	1,18,500	1,20,000
Direction ...	1,18,000	1,42,000	2,17,189	1,78,080	1,40,000	1,44,000	1,67,000
Inspection ...	7,12,000	7,31,000	8,04,480	7,82,598	8,12,000	7,79,000	7,89,000
Government Colleges —General ...	6,25,000	6,95,000	8,17,976	8,50,209	8,75,000	8,56,000	8,99,000
Government Colleges —Professional ...	3,54,000	3,17,000	3,35,128	4,00,575	3,92,500	3,98,000	3,72,000
Government Schools —General ...	12,61,000	12,84,000	14,38,548	19,81,325	15,47,000	22,56,000	11,73,000
Government Schools —Special ...	5,65,000	5,76,000	5,75,620	5,98,433	7,72,000	6,01,000	6,88,000
Grants-in-aid ...	10,72,000	11,81,000	14,28,094	17,24,594	14,20,000	22,80,000	15,06,000
Scholarships ...	1,71,000	1,91,000	2,19,049	2,24,400	2,34,000	2,41,000	2,44,000
Miscellaneous ...	1,15,000	1,18,000	2,17,307	1,20,518	1,65,000	7,37,000	1,40,000
Refunds ...	4,000	3,000	2,454	1,097	2,500	2,500	2,000
Lump provision for non-recurring expenditure ...	...		...	...	7,45,000	...	5,11,000
Lump provision for improving popular education ...	...	...	...	...	9,25,000	97,000	11,72,000
Lump provision for regrant of savings of 1912-13 ...	...	...	...	...	3,32,000		
Lump provision for secondary education ...	...	...	...	...	1,50,000	...	1,28,000
Lump provision for regrant of savings of 1912-13 ...	...	...	...	...	46,000		
Lump provision for female education	...	...	...	...	...	...	30,000
Lump provision for hostels outside Calcutta and Dacca	...	...	...	...	2,40,000	...	2,17,000
Lump provision for hostels in Calcutta	...	...	...	...	8,50,000	...	8,70,000
Expenditure from the non-recurring assignment of 75 lakhs ...	...	...	...	...	24,80,000	...	30,00,000
Expenditure of the recurring grant ...	...	...	...	...	13,20,000	...	13,20,000
Lump provision for regrant of savings of above grant for 1913-14 ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12,00,000
Further recurring grant ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,50,000
Dacca University and hostels (non-recurring) ...	...	...	...	...	3,00,000	...	3,00,000
Ditto (recurring)	...	...	...	...	...	...	45,000
Lump deduction ...	...	...	...	...	—3,78,500	...	—5,00,000
Total ...	51,00,000	53,34,000	61,21,873	73,76,829	1,34,88,000	85,10,000	1,45,43,000

The estimate for 1913-14 was Rs. 1,34,88,000, but in the revised estimate this has been reduced to Rs. 85,10,000 with reference to the actuals of the first nine months of the year. The decrease is chiefly due to partial utilization of the Imperial grants and the stoppage of the equilibrium grant on the surrender of the Public Works Cess to the District Boards and to the transfer of the provision of Rs. 50,000 for the Comilla Survey School to the head "3—Land Revenue." The budget for 1914-15 includes the following items :—

	Rs.
Assistant Director of Public Instruction for Muhammadan Education	26,720
Appointment of a whole-time Professor of Geology	4,200

	Rs.
Provision for the creation of 3 additional Provincial Educational Service appointments ...	10,200
Provision for revision of the establishment of the Director of Public Instruction	11,900
Personal allowances of 2 Inspectors of Schools ...	4,200
Increase of pay of existing maulvis and appointment of additional maulvis	2,680
Personal and other allowances to heads of colleges	10,000

50. *Medical.*—The budget grant for 1913-14 was Rs. 41,01,000. This has been reduced to Rs. 29,00,000 in the revised estimate with reference to the actuals of the first nine months of the year. The decrease is chiefly due to savings to the extent of 10 lakhs in the grant for expenditure on sanitation, Rs. 80,000 in the lump grant for medical relief, Rs. 50,000 for jungle-clearing, one lakh for the School of Tropical Medicine and to non-utilization of the provision for the purchase of quinine by the Sanitary Commissioner for sale in the Eastern Bengal districts. The estimate for 1914-15 is Rs. 47,81,000, and includes the following items :—

	Rs.
Provision for the revision of Civil Surgeons' offices	2,000
Teaching allowances to the three Resident Surgeons and Physicians, Medical College Hospital	7,200
Provision for an Obstetric Registrar, Medical College Hospital	1,200
Increased grant for medical stores, Medical College Hospital	15,000
Increase of staff allowances of the Military Assistant Surgeons attached to the General Hospital	2,000
Provision for jungle-clearing	50,000
Improvement of nursing arrangements in mufassal hospitals	25,000
Lump grant for the School of Tropical Medicine for construction (not utilized in 1913-14) ...	1,00,000
Lump grant for equipment for the School of Tropical Medicine	50,000
Lump grant for medical relief being the unspent balance of 1913-14	80,000
Lump grant for non-recurring expenditure on sanitation	18,82,772
Lump grant for recurring expenditure ...	9,50,000
Total	31,65,172
Lump deduction for probable savings ...	10,00,000
	21,65,172

Hitherto the sanitary grants have been shown partly under "Medical" and partly under "Civil Works": this year for convenience they have all been shown under this head.

The grants for Presidency Hospitals are shown below :—

	Salaries.	Establishment.	Allowances.	Clothing and bedding.	Diet.	Other supplies.	Contingencies.	Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Medical College Hospital	59,190	21,080	200	86,000		94,000	1,01,530	3,62,000
General Hospital ...	68,173	9,528	1,360	77,000		33,500	62,439	2,52,000
Campbell Hospital ...	13,560	26,608	8,300	36,000		15,500	43,032	1,43,000
Albert Victor Asylum for Lepers ...	7,200	3,552	180	17,000		1,200	7,868	37,000

51. *Political.*—The estimate for 1914-15 is Rs. 29,000, which is also the budget grant for 1913-14, against Rs. 30,000, the revised estimate for the current year. The increase in the current year is due to larger payments for Durbar presents owing to the installation of the new Maharaja of Cooch Behar.

52. *Scientific and other Minor Departments.*—The total charges under this head for 1913-14 were originally estimated at Rs. 17,43,000, but in the revised estimate this has been reduced to Rs. 15,32,000. The decrease is chiefly due to savings in expenditure from the Imperial grant for agriculture. Rupees 30,000 was transferred to the Forest Department and the balance was not fully spent. Savings were also effected in the grants for the Agricultural Department, Botanic Gardens and Fishery Department. The estimate for 1914-15 is Rs. 17,30,000, and includes the following provisions :—

	Rs.
For non-recurring improvements of the Agricultural Department	1,00,000
Regrant of the unspent balance of the Imperial grant for Agricultural Department	52,000
Regrant of the unspent balance of the Imperial grant for Cinchona Department	29,975
One Deputy Director of Agriculture	6,000
Appointment of two supervisors	4,800
Provision for fieldmen-demonstrators	21,060
Ditto for overseers and servants for Rangpur Dairy Farm	3,876
Provision for purchase and feed of cattle for Rangpur Dairy Farm	17,000
Provision for implements and machinery for Rangpur Dairy Farm	14,000
Provision for petty construction and reclamation, etc., of Rangpur Dairy Farm	30,800
Provision for an additional Inspector of Factories	4,800
Provision for registration of steamer-borne trade at Bhairab Bazar in Mymensingh	1,200
Provision for contribution to the Eastern Bengal State Railway for the construction of a bungalow for the Assistant Superintendent of Emigration at Goalundo	3,000

53. *Superannuation.*—The estimate for 1913-14 is Rs. 30,22,000, but in the revised this has been raised to Rs. 31,09,000, owing chiefly to the provision for commuted value of pensions to the extent of Rs. 75,000. The budget

for 1914-15 amounts to Rs. 32,31,000 as the charges under this head tend to rise year after year owing to increase in the number of pensioners.

54. *Stationery and Printing.*—The following table shows the charges under this head :—

HEADS.	Actuals, 1912-13.	Budget estimate, 1913-14.	Revised estimate, 1913-14.	Budget estimate, 1914-15.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Forms Department at the Presidency ...	52,002	59,000	57,000	71,000
Stationery purchased in this country ..	23,130	25,000	24,000	25,000
Government presses ...	6,24,717	6,24,000	6,40,000	6,84,000
Printing at private presses	1,222	4,000	2,000	2,000
Stationery supplied from Central Stores ...	6,32,102	6,46,000	8,13,000	6,60,000
Refunds	1,256	2,000	3,000	2,000
Total ...	13,34,429	13,60,000	15,39,000	14,44,000

The increased provision under Forms Department is for the payment of allowances to assistants of that office on the introduction of jail hours on its transfer to the jail. The increase under "Government presses" is due to larger provision for plant, furniture and contingencies and a lump provision for additional establishment required for the removal of a portion of the press from the Writers' Buildings to Koila Ghât Street.

55. *Miscellaneous.*—The budget estimate for 1913-14 was Rs. 9,53,000, but in the revised estimate this has been reduced to Rs. 7,16,000. The reduction is chiefly due to the adjustment, under appropriate heads, of the expenditure on grain compensation allowance and the charges sanctioned by His Excellency from the provision for petty grants, and to the reappropriation of the reserve provision of Rs. 1,50,000, in order to meet expenditure under other heads. Against these transfers additional charges were incurred for the District Administration and the Calcutta Port Facilities Committee and the expenditure on gratuitous relief in flooded areas, for which there were no provisions in the budget. Special payments were also made to the Prisoners' Aid Society for acquisition of land, to the "Refuge" for regrant of the undrawn grant for 1912-13, to the Calcutta Orphanage and the Anath Bhandar for the purchase of buildings. The estimate for 1914-15 is Rs. 10,81,000, and includes a lump provision of Rs. 4,00,000 for the payment of grain compensation allowance for all departments : Rs. 1,00,000 to be placed at the disposal of His Excellency for petty grants, Rs. 1,50,000 for general reserve for unforeseen requirements, Rs. 20,000 for District Administration Committee, Rs. 3,000 for the Port Facilities Committee, Rs. 50,000 for gratuitous relief in the flooded area and Rs. 26,000 being the amount recently sanctioned by the Government of India on account of recoveries from local bodies which will be remitted, it being assumed for estimate purposes that the increase will result in an increase of expenditure, though in most cases there will actually be a reduction in revenue. A corresponding assignment has been given from the Imperial Revenues for the purpose.

56. *Irrigation—Major Works (Working Expenses).*—The estimate for 1913-14 amounting to Rs. 2,40,000 has been raised to Rs. 3,06,000 in the revised estimate for the inclusion of the charges for silt-clearance, Range II and Gewankhally supply channel of the Hijili Tidal Canal. The estimate for 1914-15 has been passed for Rs. 2,96,000, and includes Rs. 45,000 for silt-clearance in the main canal and supply channel of the Hijili Tidal Canal and also to some special repairs to the distributaries of the Midnapore Canal. The provincial share is one-half and amounts to Rs. 1,53,000 for 1913-14 and Rs. 1,48,000 for 1914-15.

57. *Irrigation—Minor Works and Navigation in charge of the Public Works Department.*—The actual charges in 1912-13 amounted to Rs. 15,36,307 and the estimate for 1913-14 was Rs. 18,66,000. Additional grants have been sanctioned during the year for repairs to embankments damaged by floods, and silt-clearance of the Protapkhally khal in the district of Midnapore, and the revised estimate for 1913-14 has been passed for Rs. 19,94,000. The estimate for 1914-15 amounts to Rs. 22,38,000, and includes the following special provisions :—

	Rs.
Clearing the bed of the Saraswati river in connection with the Rajapur drainage works ...	54,000
Works in connection with the Jessore Drainage Division	20,000
Dredging the entrance of the Bhagirathi and Gorai rivers	16,000
Construction of a new sluice below Jujuti in connection with the Eden Canal	35,000
Increased provision for maintenance and repairs of the Magrahat drainage scheme	20,000
Flood damage repairs	2,12,000
Dredging the Angeria creek	1,70,000
Dredging the Attarabanka shoal	30,000
Dredging the Puttimari channel	80,000
Permanent protection of the Hooghly left embankment at Diamond Harbour	80,000
Purchase of spare parts of the dredger *Foyers* for repairs to damage done by serious accidents	21,000

The provincial share is one-half and amounts to Rs. 9,97,000 for 1913-14 and Rs. 11,19,000 for 1914-15.

58. *Minor Works and Navigation in charge of the Civil Department.*—The estimate for 1914-15 is Rs. 8,000 against Rs. 3,000, the budget grant for 1913-14. The estimate for 1914-15 includes Rs. 5,000 for grant-in-aid for bandalling the Ganges near Rampur Boalia.

59. *Civil Works in charge of the Public Works Department.*—The estimate of expenditure for 1914-15 has been placed at Rs. 89,59,000, including Rs. 6,40,000 for discretionary grants, out of 12 lakhs sanctioned by the Government of India in 1913. The following table shows budget grants for 1913-14 and 1914-15 with the revised estimate for 1913-14 :—

	1913-14		1914-15.
	Budget.	Revised.	Budget.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Original works ...	43,93,317	47,81,000	55,59,000
Repairs	18,92,600	19,57,000	21,83,000
Establishment ...	11,07,083	10,20,000	11,47,000
Tools and plant ...	37,000	39,000	70,000
Stock and suspense	...	3,000	...
Total ...	74,30,000	78,00,000	89,59,000

The grant for next year on original works is chiefly distributed thus :—

	Rs.
Residences—	
Public Works Department	60,000
Civil	1,00,000
Medical	50,000
Judicial	50,000
Police	3,00,000
Deputy Collectors	25,000

	Rs.
Sanitation—House for Deputy Sanitary Commissioner, Rajshahi	21,300
Offices—	
Civil	2,50,000
Judicial	1,50,000
Excise warehouses	50,000
Police—	
Dullunda Training School	1,00,000
Lal Bazar	50,000
Jails	75,000
Registration	75,000
Public Works Department	50,000
Medical School of Tropical Medicine	3,00,000
Roads	10,00,000
Education—Drainage of Victoria School, Kurseong ...	58,500

60. *Civil Works in charge of the Civil Department.*—The estimate for 1913-14 was Rs. 30,20,000, but in the revised estimate this has been reduced to Rs. 28,30,000, partly owing to the transfer of Rs. 1,50,000 for the grant to the Chittagong Port to the head "21—Ports and Pilotage" and to the non-utilization of the full allotment for works of sanitary improvement. The estimate for 1914-15 amounts to Rs. 20,77,000 and includes the following :—

	Rs.
Grant to the Calcutta Improvement Trust ...	11,50,000
Special grants for feeder roads	50,000
Augmentation grant	5,86,000
Grant for the improvement of roads in Government estates	67,618
Special grants at the disposal of the Divisional Commissioners	1,00,000
Ditto District Magistrates ...	52,000
Lump provision for pay of sub-overseers in connection with rural water-supply	14,000

No provision has been made under this head for grants for works of sanitary improvement which will in future be provided for wholly under Medical Department. The following are the principal items sanctioned or earmarked for the works of sanitary improvement in the year 1913-14 :—

	Rs.
Subsidy to the Dacca Municipality for expenditure on conservancy	7,500
Cost of establishment to be maintained during 1913-14 for anti-malarial operations in Western Duars	7,000
Cost of staff of Dr. Bentley's field laboratory for 1913-14	2,700
Construction of quarters for the cooly establishment attached to the Animal Vaccination Depôt, Entally, and small alterations to the depôt ...	9,930
Chittagong Municipality for jungle-clearing ...	750
Bhatpara drainage	10,000
Howrah "	1,00,000
Sanitary improvement in the town of Chittagong	20,000
Kalimpong water-supply	7,529
Sukeapukri "	1,788
Sanitary arrangements in connection with the Lower Ganges Bridge	8,508

	Rs.
Improvement of water-supply to the "Lower Homes," Kalimpong	5,000
Bhadreswar drainage	17,500
Anti-malarial measures	14,000
Kurigram drainage	2,000
Dacca Municipality for conservancy arrangements in connection with the concentration of troops	9,538
Dacca Municipality for water-supply in connection with the concentration of troops	1,548
Cost of experiments in connection with Calcutta sewage under Sanitary Commissioner ...	50,000
Tangail drainage	9,616
Improvement of water-supply in the Harirampur Thana, Dacca	15,400
Ditto in Goalundo Subdivision... ...	6,000
Hooghly-Chinsurah water-works	50,000
Burdwan Municipality for extension of water-supply	33,000
Grants to District Boards for improvement of rural water-supply	12,947
Uttarpara water-supply	40,300
Asansol "	62,000
Narayanganj "	1,00,000
Chittagong "	2,00,000
Sanitary improvement, Gaibandha	8,000
Calcutta Corporation for fringe area drainage ...	42,354
Temporary draftsmen and surveyors in the Sanitary Engineer's Office	30,000
Satkhira Municipality and water-supply ...	26,000

Bengal Provincial Revenue.

RECEIPTS.	ACTUALS.			1913-14.		1914-15.
	1910-11.	1911-12.	1912-13.	Sanctioned estimate.	Revised estimate.	Budget estimate
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Opening balance ...	*	*	1,66,25,000	2,33,23,000	3,13,30,000	3,04,30,000
Principal Heads of Revenue—						
I—Land Revenue { Proper ...	1,57,35,500	1,57,27,171	1,60,64,024	1,58,49,000	1,57,00,000	1,61,71,000
I—Land Revenue { Adjustments ...	*	*	+1,46,73,885	+56,43,000	+57,39,000	+57,84,000
IV—Stamps	96,93,000	1,00,56,288	1,08,71,927	1,07,00,000	1,08,00,000	1,11,50,000
V—Excise	62,95,000	1,00,41,150	1,37,59,045	1,38,55,000	1,52,00,000	1,58,00,000
VI—Provincial Rates	32,59,000	31,74,872	32,02,152	90,000	1,23,000	1,18,000
VIII—Assessed Taxes	25,78,000	26,73,534	27,75,826	28,00,000	32,50,000	30,50,000
IX—Forests	7,02,000	13,87,465	16,00,601	14,00,000	16,50,000	16,00,000
X—Registration	16,31,000	17,33,694	18,23,161	19,00,000	19,70,000	20,50,000
Total ...	3,98,93,500	4,47,94,174	6,42,70,621	5,22,37,000	5,44,32,000	5,57,23,000
XII—Interest	6,31,000	5,22,205	5,00,713	4,85,000	4,80,000	4,87,000
Receipts by Civil Department—						
XVI—Law and Justice—						
Courts of Law	7,65,000	7,60,777	8,14,901	7,65,000	8,67,000	8,95,000
Jails	6,39,000	8,31,424	7,03,353	6,59,000	7,26,000	7,23,000
XVII—Police	2,03,000	1,87,675	2,39,083	1,62,000	1,65,000	1,77,000
XVIII—Ports and Pilotage ...	16,07,000	16,95,556	17,52,191	18,00,000	16,40,000	17,16,000
XIX—Education	6,78,000	7,33,248	7,77,676	7,51,000	8,15,000	8,62,000
XX—Medical	3,67,000	3,62,976	4,26,733	3,76,000	4,00,000	3,97,000
XXI—Scientific and other Minor Departments	3,24,000	2,37,053	2,17,981	2,26,000	3,13,000	2,72,000
Total ...	45,83,000	48,08,709	49,31,867	47,39,000	49,26,000	50,42,000
Miscellaneous—						
XXII—Receipts in aid of Superannuation	36,000	43,158	48,210	42,000	38,000	39,000
XXIII—Stationery and Printing ...	1,40,000	1,30,425	1,20,103	1,30,000	1,25,000	1,20,000
XXV—Miscellaneous	6,14,000	6,35,371	7,72,339	5,91,000	6,78,000	5,92,000
Total ...	7,90,000	8,08,954	9,40,652	7,63,000	8,41,000	7,51,000
Irrigation—						
XXIX—Major Works (direct receipts)	2,63,000	1,39,063	1,36,959	1,40,000	1,25,000	1,33,000
XXX—Minor Works and Navigation—						
By Public Works Department	5,53,000	3,36,000	3,20,105	3,42,000	2,83,000	3,05,000
By Civil Department ...	55,000	25,015	24,925	26,000	25,000	25,000
Total ...	8,71,000	5,00,078	4,81,989	5,08,000	4,33,000	4,63,000
Buildings and Roads—						
XXXI—Civil Works—						
By Public Works Department	3,71,000	4,62,000	3,85,036	3,69,000	4,14,000	3,85,000
By Civil Department ...	1,53,000	1,55,263	1,42,523	1,55,000	1,44,000	1,44,000
Total ...	5,24,000	6,17,263	5,27,559	5,24,000	5,58,000	5,29,000
Total Receipts ...	4,72,92,500	5,20,51,383	7,16,53,401	5,92,56,000	6,16,70,000	6,29,96,000
GRAND TOTAL ...	.....	.....	8,82,78,401	8,75,79,000	9,30,00,000	9,34,26,000

* The opening balances and Land Revenue adjustments for new Bengal cannot be worked out.

Bengal Provincial Expenditure.

Expenditure.	Actuals.			1913-14.		1914
	1910-11.	1911-12.	1912-13.	Sanctioned estimate.	Revised estimate.	Bud estim
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs	Rs.	R
rect demand on the Revenues—						
1. Refunds and drawbacks	1,59,000	1,55,124	1,44,035	1,41,000	1,38,000	1,3
2. Assignments and Compensations	36,000	37,647	50,905	83,000	45,000	4
3. Land Revenue	29,17,000	35,09,257	32,36,128	33,48,000	32,64,000	35,8
6. Stamps	3,04,000	3,22,507	3,53,685	3,62,000	3,63,000	3,7
7. Excise	2,96,000	4,73,793	5,97,657	6,69,000	6,29,000	8,7
8. Provincial Rates	44,000	49,787	39,209	.....	.....	....
10. Assessed Taxes	75,000	78,116	76,469	78,000	78,000	7
11. Forests	3,31,000	7,06,218	6,60,794	6,76,000	6,40,000	7,2
12. Registration	10,28,000	10,67.406	10,50,903	11,16,000	11,01,000	11,8
Total ...	51,90,000	63,99,855	62,09,785	64,23,000	62,58,000	69,6
13. Interest on Ordinary Debt ...	4,85,000	5,10,365	4,42,546	4,33,000	4,39,000	4,3
laries and Expenses of Civil Department—						
18. General Administration ...	21,74,000	37,35,022	25,46,712	23,02,000	24,54,000	23,8
19. Law and Justice { Courts of Law	96,17,000	1,01,44,720	96,39,400	96,10,000	99,53,000	99,5
19. Law and Justice { Jails ..	20,70,000	20,51,332	19,61,832	20,79,000	22,76,000	20,7
20. Police	81,54,000	87,08,211	83,99,859	95,82,000	94,08,000	1,08,9
21. Ports and Pilotage	12,87,000	13,27,925	12,16,009	13,74,000	14,36,000	15,5
22. Education	53,34,000	61,21,873	73,76,839	1,34,88,000	85,10,000	1,45,4
24. Medical	24,37,000	26,14,743	26,42,138	41,01,000	29,00,000	47,8
25. Political	31,000	22,622	38,976	29,000	30,000	2
26. Scientific and other Minor Departments.	14,61,000	14,80,938	16,63,953	17,18,000	15,32,000	17,3
Total ...	3,25,65,000	3,62,07,386	3,54,85,703	4,42,78,000	3,84,99,000	4,79,0
iscellaneous—						
29. Superannuation, etc.	26,22,000	27,85,637	29,25,688	30,22,000	31,09,000	32,5
30. Stationery and Printing ...	16,54,000	15,79,021	13,84,429	13,60,000	15,39,000	14,4
32. Miscellaneous	5,77,000	5,60,371	4,25,610	9,53,000	7,16,000	10,8
Total ...	48,53,000	49,25,029	46,85,727	53,35,000	53,64,000	57,5
mine Relief and Insurance—						
33. Famine Relief	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	....
36. Reduction or avoidance of debt ...	.....	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	6
ilways (Revenue Accounts)—						
40. Subsidised Companies—Land, etc.	.....	.....	—368	.....	.....	....
41. Miscellaneous Railway expenditure	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	...
Total ...	.....	60,000	59,657	60,000	60,000	6
rigation—						
42 Major Works—						
Working expenses	2,65,000	1,38,548	1,17,858	1,20,000	1,53,000	1,4
Interest on Debt	3,39,000	1,70,650	1,75,618	1,76,000	1,69,000	1,6
43. Minor Works and Navigation—						
By Public Works Department ...	17,40,000	7,83,553	7,68,153	9,83,000	9,97,000	11,1
„ Civil Department ...	3,000	1,954	965	1,000	1,000	
Total ...	23,47,000	10,94,700	10,62,594	12,30,000	13,20,000	14,4
uildings and Roads—						
45. Civil Works—						
By Public Works Department ...	63,65,000	61,52,000	63,21,755	74,30,000	78,00,000	89,5
„ Civil Department ...	16,74,000	30,27,729	26,80,384	30,20,000	28,30,000	20,7
Total ..	80,39,000	91,79,729	90,02,139	1,04,50,000	1,06,30,000	1,10,3
Total Charges ...	5,34,79,000	5,83,77,064	5,69,48,131	6,82,09,000	6,25,70,000	7,35,9
Closing balance ...	*	*	3,13,30,270	1,98,70,000	3,04,80,000	1,98,3
Grand Total ...	*	*	8,82,78,401	8,75,79,000	9,30,00,000	9,31,2
Provincial surplus (+) or deficit (−).	.....	.....	+1,47,05 270	−89,53,000	− 9,00,000	−1,05,6

* Please see remarks on receipt side.

APPENDIX A.

Bengal Provincial Receipts, in detail of minor heads.

[Figures in columns 6 and 7 are those provisionally passed by the Government of India.]

The remarks in column 8, except where otherwise specially explained, refer to difference between columns 6 and 7.

1—Land Revenue—

HEADS.	1910-11. Actuals.	1911-12. Actuals.	1912-13. Actuals.	1913-14. Sanctioned estimate.	1913-14. Revised estimate.	1914-15. Budget estimate.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Gross Land Revenue	2,69,68,000	2,71,72,317	2,79,87,156	2,83,88,000	2,80,42,000	2,96,64,000	
Deduct collections from Government estates which are wholly Provincial ...	45,42,000	43,30,589	47,70,855	44,32,000	43,90,000	47,00,000	The decrease in the revised is for suspensions owing to the floods in Midnapore and Hooghly and the increase in the budget is for expected recovery of suspensions of 1913-14
Deduct recoveries of cost of maintenance of boundary marks wholly Provincial ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	2,000	2,000	A new head opened as requested by the Comptroller-General.
Deduct recoveries of Survey and Settlement charges which are Imperial	39,000	48,564	6,29,962	11,22,000	10,34,000	20,24,000	The decrease in the revised is for smaller recoveries anticipated in Jalpaiguri. Budget includes :— Dacca ... .. Rs. 2,50,000; Faridpur ... ... 7,26,000; Jalpaiguri ... ... 3,00,000; Mymensingh ... ... 5,00,000; Midnapore 2,48,000; 20,24,000
Total Deductions .	45,81,000	43,79,153	54,00,817	55,54,000	54,26,000	67,26,000	
Net amount divisible between Imperial and Provincial	2,23,87,000	2,27,93,164	2,25,86,339	2,28,34,000	2,26,16,000	2,29,38,000	The decrease in the revised is for suspensions owing to floods and the increase in the budget is for expected recovery of suspensions.
Provincial share of above	1,11,93,500	1,13,96,582	1,12,93,169	1,14,17,000	1,13,08,000	1,14,69,000	
Add collections from Government estates	45,42,000	43,30,589	47,70,855	44,32,000	43,90,000	47,00,000	
Recovery of cost of maintenance of boundary pillars	.....	.....	.....	.....	2,000	2,000	
Total Provincial ...	1,57,35,500	1,57,27,171	1,60,64,024	1,58,49,000	1,57,00,000	1,61,71,000	
Add on account of adjustments as shown on next page			1,46,73,885	56,49,000	57,99,000	57,84,000	

For repairs to Nizamat Palace, Murshidabad			.....	.....	—40,000	.....	This has been sanctioned by the Government of India.
For Law charges on account of Bihar and Orissa			.....	.....	—15,000	—15,000	The charges were formerly paid by Bengal, but will now be paid by Bihar and Orissa Government.
Fixed adjustment under the Provincial Settlement			—7,28,000	—7,28,000	—7,28,000	—7,28,000	
For Collegiate and University expenditure in Bihar and Orissa			.....	.....	—21,000	—21,000	The settlement standard for Bengal included this, but it will now be debited to Bihar Government and paid to colleges in the new province.
For making certain alterations to the buildings of the Calcutta Museum for delivery of popular lectures			.....	.....	—2,000	.....	
Total ...			—7,28,000	—7,28,000	—8,06,000	—7,64,000	
From Imperial to Provincial.							
For Famine Relief scheme			60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	
Grant to the Calcutta Improvement Trust			1,50,000	1,50,000	1,50,000	1,50,000	
Recurring grant for popular education ...			9,25,000	9,25,000	9,25,000	9,25,000	
Recurring grant for aided English secondary schools			1,50,000	1,50,000	1,50,000	1,50,000	
Recurring grant for education of domiciled community (Calcutta)			40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	
Contribution for a grant to the C. M. S. College, Calcutta			.....	.....	6,000	6,000	
For improvement of female education ...			.....	.....	30,000	30,000	
Contribution for maintenance of Traffic Registration office, Bhairab Bazar ...			.....	.....	...	1,000	
Contribution for Royal Bonus			1,227	.....	.....	.....	
Non-recurring grant for the construction of hostels outside Calcutta and Dacca ...			4,00,000	.....	.....	.....	
Grant for the development of University works, Calcutta			4,00,000	.....	.....	.....	
Ditto (recurring) . .			65,000	65,000	65,000	65,000	
Assignment for Belgachia Veterinary College			30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	
Ditto recovery of the cost of transmission of records by revised procedure introduced by the Court-fees Act ...			6,440	6,000	6,000	6,000	
Grant for the amalgamation of the clerical establishment of the Art section of the Indian Museum with the School of Art ...			1,190	1,000	1,000	1,000	

HEADS.	1910-11.	1911-12.	1912-13.	1913-14.		1914-15.	REMARKS.
	Actuals.	Actuals.	Actuals.	Sanctioned estimate.	Revised estimate.	Budget estimate.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
From Imperial to Provincial—concluded.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Recurring assignment for remission of certain recoveries from local bodies			.....	.....	.....	26,000	
Non-recurring grant for the construction of hostel buildings in Calcutta			10,00,000	.....	.....	.....	
Non-recurring grant for Dacca University ...			10,00,000	.....	.....	.....	
Recurring ditto ...			45,000	45,000	45,000	45,000	
Contribution from Bihar and Orissa towards pay of electrical staff utilized by it ...			7,572	8,000	8,000	8,000	
Pensions of title-holders			2,700	3,000	3,000	3,000	
Lieut.-Colonel Sutherland's deputation for serological enquiry and that of Captain Shingleton Smith			17,256	20,000	32,000	25,000	
Grant of one-half of the salaries of Health Officers to be employed in municipalities			39,000	39,000	39,000	39,000	
Grant for Indian Deputy Sanitary Commissioners			.....	19,000	19 000	19,000	
Cost of supply of forms and printing work done for Bihar and Orissa Government			2,32,000	2,32,000	2,09,000	2,32,000	
Cost of supplying forms to Assam Administration			1,29,500	.....	89,000	1,29,000	
Contribution from Bihar and Orissa in connection with fishery experiments			.....	15,000	.....	11,000	
Non-recurring assignment for sanitation ..			20,00,000	.....	.....	.....	
Recurring ditto ...			.....	5,00,000	5,00,000	5,00,000	
Assignment for the Chittagong port ...			.....	.....	75,000	75,000	Sanctioned for 5 years on condition that this Government gives a corresponding amount to the Port Trust from Provincial Revenues.
Non-recurring assignment for discretionary grants			12,00,000	.....	.....	.....	
Grant for Agriculture and allied objects ...			.....	1,50,000	1,50,000	.....	Of this Rs. 50,000 is for Cinchona Department.
Grant for Medical relief			.....	1,00,000	1,00,000	.....	
Recurring assignment in connection with the remission of appropriations from cesses ...			.....	24,93,000	24 93,000	24,93,000	
Non-recurring assignment for education ...			75,00,000	...	.....	.....	
Further recurring grant for education ...			.....	13,20,000	13,20,000	13,20,000	
Ditto ditto			.....	.....	.....	1,50,000	
Assignment in connection with further scientific research by Dr. J. C. Bose for three years			.....	.....	.....	9,000	
Total Imperial to Provincial ...			1,54,01,885	63,71,000	65,45,000	65,48,000	
Net adjustments ...			1,46,73,885	56,43,000	57,39,000	57,84,000	

Sale of general stamps	55,10,000	58,51,102	63,74,686	66,40,000	67,00,000	71,00,000	Normal expansion of revenue.
Do. of court-fee stamps	1,34,51,000	1,38,72,790	1,38,84,986	1,43,10,000	1,42,40,000	1,45,50,000	
Do. of plain paper to be used with court-fee stamps	2,85,000	3,01,012	3,10,308	3,20,000	3,20,000	3,25,000	
Duty on impressing documents	43,000	31,812	57,163	44,000	2,36,000	2,40,000	Increase under this head is due to credit for the sale of embossed cheques as well as the value of stamps impressed by the Controller of Stamps which were formerly credited under "General stamps."
Fines and penalties	32,000	34,765	31,923	35,000	33,000	33,000	
Miscellaneous	65,000	21,095	84,787	51,000	71,000	52,000	
Total ...	1,93,86,000	2,01,12,576	2,07,43,853	2,14,00,000	2,16,00,000	2,23,00,000	Revised based on ten months' actuals.
Provincial share ...	96,93,000	1,00,56,288	1,03,71,927	1,07,00,000	1,08,00,000	1,11,50,000	

V.—*Excise*—

License and distillery fees for the sale of liquors and drugs—							
Foreign liquors		3,63,338	3,44,760	4,00,000	3,00,000	3,00,000	
Indian-made liquors excised at tariff rates		2,53,785	2,41,811	2,20,000	3,00,000	3,00,000	
Country spirits—							
License fees—							
Distillery							
Outstills		61,73,266	64,11,686	63,50,000	71,15,000	76,00,000	Increase in revised is from the settlement of shops. Increase in 1914-15 provides for normal expansion.
Still-head duty							
Miscellaneous							
Toddy revenue		4,26,401	4,50,393	4,50,000	4,60,000	4,60,000	
Opium and its preparations		8,11,686	8,96,519	8,50,000	12,00,000	12,00,000	
Other drugs, ganja, bhang, etc. ...		16,18,373	16,32,491	15,30,000	17,50,000	18,00,000	
Pachwai revenue		7,77,794	8,30,129	9,00,000	7,75,000	8,40,000	
Total ...	97,22,000	1,04,24,643	1,08,07,789	1,07,00,000	1,19,00,000	1,25,00,000	
Gain on sale-proceeds of excise opium ..	14,11,000	14,61,000	14,79,610	15,40,000	15,00,000	14,85,000	It is proposed to check the consumption.
Duty on ganja	14,25,000	14,66,420	14,37,379	15,80,000	17,65,000	17,80,000	
Fines, confiscations and miscellaneous ...	32,000	36,137	34,267	35,000	35,000	35,000	
GRAND TOTAL ...	1,26,90,000	1,33,88,200	1,37,59,045	1,38,55,000	1,52,00,000	1,58,00,000	Revised based on ten months' actuals.
Provincial share	62,95,000	1,00,41,150	1,37,59,045	1,38,55,000	1,52,00,000	1,58,00,000	

VI.—*Provincial Rates*—

Public Works Cess	31,65,000	30,83,495	30,96,008	... ..	.....	... .	These receipts are being surrendered to the District Boards.
General rates for the management of private estates	94,000	91,377	1,06,144	90,000	1,23,000	1,18,000	There were special receipts in Midnapore and Dacca in 1913-14.
Total ...	32,59,000	31,74,872	32,02,152	90,000	1,23,000	1,18,000	

VIII.—Assessed Taxes—

Heads.	1910-11. Actuals.	1911-12. Actuals.	1912-13. Actuals.	1913-14. Sanctioned estimate.	1913-14. Revised estimate.	1914-15. Budget estimate.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Deductions by Government from salaries and pensions, etc.		4,98,512	4,86,852	4,98,000	4,94,000	4,95,000	
Deductions by Government from interest on Government securities		24,009	21,192	24,000	23,000	23,000	
Deductions from salaries, etc., paid by local authorities or companies		88,367	88,660	89,000	86,000	90,000	
Income-tax on securities of local authorities or companies		1,40,809	1,43,568	1,40,000	1,47,000	1,47,000	
Ordinary collections		45,73,669	47,89,658	48,28,000	57,28,000	53,23,000	Increase in revised is due to some of the coal and jute companies and most of the banks having shown large increase in their profits. Increase is not expected in 1914-15.
Deduction from profits of railway companies		403	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Penalties		14,194	13,448	14,000	13,000	14,000	
Miscellaneous		7,105	8,274	7,000	9,000	8,000	
Total ...	51,55,000	53,47,068	55,51,652	56,00,000	65,00,000	61,00,000	Revised based on ten months' actuals.
Provincial share ...	25,78,000	26,73,534	27,75,826	28,00,000	32,50,000	30,50,000	

IX.—Forests—

Timber and other produce removed from the forests by Government agency ...	1,81,000	1,51,372	1,07,835	3,000	20,000	4,000	Increase in revised is due to sale of timber previously extracted in Buxa where departmental operation was given up.
Timber and other produce removed from the forests by consumers or purchasers ...	11,76,000	11,84,132	14,41,410	13,55,000	15,75,000	15,50,000	
Confiscated drift and waif wood	4,000	5,555	1,836	2,000	3,000	2,000	
Miscellaneous	43,000	46,406	49,520	40,000	52,000	44,000	Increase in revised is due to payment of fines in Tista for extension of timber agreements.
Total ..	14,04,000	13,87,465	16,00,601	14,00,000	16,50,000	16,00,000	Revised based on ten months' actuals.
		13,87,465	16,00,601	14,00,000	16,50,000	16,00,000	

Fees for registering documents	15,03,000	16,02,137	16,83,575	17,70,000	18,20,000	18,95,000	Increase is for increased number of registrations.
Fees for copies of registered documents ...	54,000	56,826	63,164	60,000	70,000	73,000	
Miscellaneous	74,000	74,731	76,422	70,000	80,000	82,000	
Total ...	16,31,000	17,33,694	18,23,161	19,00,000	19,70,000	20,50,000	Revised based on nine months' actuals.

XII.—*Interest*—

Class I.—Interest on advances to cultivators—							
On advances to cultivators under the Land Improvement Loans Act of 1883 ...		18,169	20,958	37,000	53,000	62,000	Increase in revised and budget is due to new loans for flooded areas.
On advances to cultivators under the Agriculturists' Loans Act, XXII of 1884 ...		63,367	36,469				
On loans to Co-operative Credit Societies		1,832	1,672	2,700	3,000	3,000	
Class II.—Interest on advances under Special Laws—	6,02,000						
On drainage and embankment advances		6,228	14,735	12,000	10,000	14,000	
Class III.—Interest on loans to landholders, etc.		2,15,454	1,97,580	1,90,000	1,94,000	1,74,000	The gradual decrease is on account of repayments of loans.
Class IV.—Interest on loans to municipal and other public corporations (excluding Presidency corporations)		1,88,285	2,00,145	2,16,000	2,06,000	2,20,000	Based on estimated outstanding mean balance of Loan Account.
Interest on Government securities ...	13,000	13,202	10,545	11,000	11,000	11,000	
Miscellaneous—							
Interest on arrears of Public Works Cess		14,959	13,361	15,000	3,000	2,500	Decrease due to the interest on arrears of Public Works Cess being surrendered to the District Boards.
Other items		410	5,001	500			
Interest on zamindari embankment recoveries, etc.		299	247	500		500	
Total Miscellaneous ...	16,000	15,668	18,609	16,000	3,000	3,000	
Rounding ...	.....	.....	.....	+300	.....	.....	
GRAND TOTAL ...	6,31,000	5,22,205	5,00,713	4,85,000	4,80,000	4,87,000	

XVIA.—Law and Justice—Courts of Law—

Heads.	1910-11. Actuals.	1911-12. Actuals.	1912-13. Actuals.	1913-14. Sanctioned estimate.	1913-14. Revised estimate.	1914-15. Budget estimate.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Sale-proceeds of unclaimed and escheated property	23,000	26,152	28,892	25,000	33,000	30,000	
Court-fees realized in cash	51,000	56,187	64,124	57,000	70,000	74,000	
General fees, fines and forfeitures ...	6,29,000	6,07,679	6,55,040	6,15,000	7,00,000	7,25,000	Increase due to larger magisterial fines.
Pleadership Examination fees	39,000	37,990	32,385	38,000	30,000	32,000	
Miscellaneous fees and fines	23,000	5,911	5,855	5,000	7,000	6,000	
Miscellaneous		26,858	28,606	25,000	27,000	28,000	
Total ...	7,65,000	7,60,777	8,14,901	7,65,000	8,67,000	8,95,000	Revised based on actuals of first nine months.

XVIB.—Jails—

Jails	19,000	9,287	1,356	9,000	1,000	1,000	
Jail manufactures	6,20,000	8,22,137	7,01,997	6,60,000	7,25,000	7,22,000	
Total ...	6,39,000	8,31,424	7,03,353	6,69,000	7,26,000	7,23,000	Revised based on actuals of first nine months. Budget follows revised.

XVII.—Police—

Cash receipts under the Arms Act ...		1,018	937	1,000	700	1,000	
Police supplied to public departments, private companies and persons		69,816	1,13,200	40,000	20,000	20,000	Decrease due to the abolition of additional police in the districts of Jessore and Khulna.
Presidency police		79,769	89,566	83,000	1,09,000	1,20,000	Increase due to larger receipts under the Motor Cycles Act.
Recoveries on account of village police ...		308	383	300	300	300	Based on actuals.
Fees, fines and forfeitures		14,153	16,880	15,700	17,000	17,000	
Miscellaneous		22,611	18,116	22,000	18,000	19,000	
For rounding ...		.....	.....	.....	.....	—300	
Total ..	2,03,000	1,87,675	2,39,082	1,62,000	1,65,000	1,77,000	Revised based on actuals of first nine months.

Sale-proceeds of vessels and stores ...	.....	831	1,578	.....	.....	.....	
Registration and other fees { Calcutta ...	84,000	86,964	91,486	87,000	93,000	94,000	
Chittagong ...		1,939	.....	.....	...		
Pilotage receipts, Calcutta	14,37,000	14,63,455	15,22,201	16,00,000	14,30,000	15,00,000	The receipts are decreasing steadily month by month in 1913-14. Budget provides for a small increase over 1913-14.
Lead-money for volunteers		12,545	11,472	13,000	10,000	12,000	
Miscellaneous	86,000	1,29,822	1,25,454	1,00,000	1,07,000	1,10,000	Actuals of 1911-12 and 1912-13 included special receipts of Rs. 27,000 and Rs. 20,000, respectively, on account of contribution made by the Government of India for the services of the *Guide* at Port Blair. This is not likely to be employed on similar duty in 1913-14 and 1914-15 and hence the decrease.
Total ...	16,07,000	16,95,556	17,52,191	18,00,000	16,40,000	17,16,000	Revised based on the actuals of the first nine months.

XIX.—*Education*—

Fees, Government Colleges—							
General	3,08,000	2,89,131	3,00,593	2,90,000	3,23,000	3,32,000	
Professional		46,074	49,713	48,000	56,000	56,000	
Fees, Government Schools—							
General	3,25,000	3,21,797	3,45,875	3,41,000	3,58,000	3,74,000	
Special		13,641	15,009	14,000	14,000	31,000	Budget includes fees of Madrassas in East Bengal which were hitherto credited to the Mohsin Fund.
Contributions from Native States, private persons and municipalities	8,000	5,126	14,667	9,900	6,000	12,000	
Income from endowments	.....	3,778	111	4,000	.....	100	
Miscellaneous	37,000	53,701	51,708	44,100	58,000	57,000	
For rounding ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	—100	
Total ...	6,78,000	7,33,248	7,77,676	7,51,000	8,15,000	8,62,000	Revised based on the actuals of the first nine months.

XX.—*Medical*—

Medical School and College fees	65,000	73,305	86,743	88,000	97,000	96,000	Increase is due to the increased number of students.
Hospital receipts (receipts from paying patients)	1,68,000	1,61,887	1,55,537	1,64,000	1,55,000	1,53,000	Based on actuals.
Lunatic Asylum receipts	22,000	25,061	26,108	23,400	27,000	28,000	
Contributions (from municipalities and private persons)	55,000	56,389	1,05,181	56,400	56,000	56,000	Actuals of 1912-13 included a special contribution of Rs. 50,000 from the Indian Research Fund for jungle-clearing in malarial districts.
Medicines sold by Civil Surgeons ...	26,000	26,167	37,293	30,000	50,000	50,000	
Miscellaneous	31,000	30,167	15,871	14,200	15,000	14,000	
Total ...	3,67,000	3,62,976	4,26,733	3,76,000	4,00,000	3,97,000	Revised based on the actuals of the first nine months.

XXI.—Scientific and other Minor Departments—

HEADS.	1910-11. Actuals.	1911-12. Actuals.	1912-13. Actuals.	1913-14. Sanctioned estimate.	1913-14. Revised estimate.	1914-15. Budget estimate.	REMARKS
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Botanical and other public garden receipts ...	4,000	2,311	3,871	2,000	3,000	2,300	
Veterinary and stallion receipts ...	37,000	33,771	33,258	30,000	32,000	33,000	
Cinchona plantation	2,06,000	1,26,663	99,509	1,07,000	2,00,000	1,50,000	Budget based on the average receipts of the last three years. It is expected that in 1913-14 the requirements of quinine will be nearly double of that of 1912-13.
Agricultural receipts, including receipts on account of experimental cultivation ...	31,000	32,830	42,515	42,000	42,000	50,000	Budget includes receipts from the Rangpur Dairy Farm.
Public exhibitions and fairs	.....	.....	.....	.....	100	.....	
Emigration fees	24,000	25,695	24,630	30,000	24,000	23,000	
Inland labour transport fees	14,000	10,454	8,396	10,000	8,000	9,000	
Examination fees	1,000	—28	25	100	300	100	
Miscellaneous	8,000	5,367	5,727	4,900	3,600	4,600	
Total ...	3,24,000	2,37,063	2,17,931	2,26,000	3,13,000	2,72,000	Revised based on the actuals of the first nine months.

XXII.—*Receipts in aid of Superannuation*—

Family subscriptions of Indian members of the Covenanted Civil Service	1,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	There is now no Indian member.
Contributions for pensions and gratuities—							
Contributions of officers lent to foreign service of the first and second kind ...		26,779	26,451	22,000	18,500	19,000	
Contributions of persons employed for the management of private estates, under Act X of 1892		1,601	1,460	1,600	1,500	1,600	
Annuity deductions of Covenanted Civilians lent to Native States, etc., for short terms	23,000	2,432	4,663	4,000	3,000	3,300	
Refund of gratuities		60	72	100	.....	100	
Deductions for Pilotage Pension Fund ...	12,000	12,286	15,564	14,300	15,000	15,000	
Total ...	36,000	43,158	48,210	42,000	38,000	39,000	Revised based on the actuals of the first nine months.

XXIII.—*Stationery and Printing*—

Stationery receipts	3,000	2,535	2,799	3,000	2,000	2,000	Budget based on the actuals of 1912-13.
Sale of *Gazettes* and other publications ...	1,15,000	85,907	88,111	85,000	95,000	89,800	
Other Press receipts	22,000	41,983	29,193	42,000	28,000	28,200	
Total ...	1,40,000	1,30,425	1,20,103	1,30,000	1,25,000	1,20,000	Revised based on the actuals of the first nine months.

Percentage on capital furniture	.....	30	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Recovery on account of famine expenditure ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Unclaimed deposits	3,63,000	5,22,773	6,38,026	4,80,000	5,35,000	4,80,000	This is an uncertain head. Revised based on the amount of deposits likely to lapse at the close of the year.
Treasure-trove	.....	139	500	.....	.....	.....	
Sale-proceeds of Durbar presents ...	10,000	12,435	7,225	7,000	7,000	7,000	
Sale of old stores and materials	19,000	1,350	1,727	3,000	8,000	3,000	Revised includes Rs 5,634 on account of sale of tents to the Private Secretary to the Lieutenant Governor of Bihar and Orissa from the Government House stock at Dacca.
Sale of lands and houses, etc.	1,35,000	201	2,742	3,000	15,000	2,000	Revised includes Rs. 11,540 on account of sale of Government land to the Railway at Chittagong.
Fees for Government audits	10,000	19,503	15,352	17,000	33,000	27,000	Revised includes Rs. 11,000 on account of fees due for audit of accounts for 1911-12 and previous years which was completed in 1912-13 and 1913-14.
Rents	19,000	14,636	14,900	13,000	14,000	14,000	
Miscellaneous fees, fines and forfeitures ...	3,000	2,639	7,098	3,000	4,000	3,000	
Contributions	.....	750	702	.....	1,000	1,000	
Miscellaneous—							
Fees and fines of revenue courts ...		21,908	27,194	24,000	26,000	24,000	
Recoveries of law charges, other than those in pauper suits		12,104	40,791	13,000	13,000	12,000	
Value of mathematical stores returned ...		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Sundry receipts—Circuit-house ...		368	299	400	500	400	
Miscellaneous receipts on account of Public Works Cess, under Act IX (B C.) of 1880		521	704	600	.....	.....	
Miscellaneous receipts on account of the management of Wards' estates ...		34	107	.....	500	100	
Sale-proceeds of trees on tea lands ...		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Sale of elephants		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Other items		19,290	10,754	20,000	22,000	16,500	
Steamer receipts, Chittagong		6,600	4,177	7,000	2,000	2,000	
Total Miscellaneous ...	55,000	60,885	84,026	65,000	63,000	55,000	
GRAND TOTAL ...	6,14,000	6,35,371	7,72,339	5,91,000	6,78,000	5,92,000	Revised based on the actuals of the first nine months.

XXIX.—Major Works—(Direct Receipts)—

Midnapore Canal	2,08,000	2,15,470	2,20,782	2,27,000	2,03,000	2,13,500	Decrease in revised is under water-rates. An increase in the irrigated area expected next year.
Hijli Tidal Canal	55,000	62,657	53,136	53,000	47,000	53,500	Decrease in revised is due to silting up of the canal which reduced the navigation receipts.
Total ...	2,63,000	2,78,127	2,73,918	2,80,000	2,50,000	2,67,000	
Provincial share ...	2,63,000	1,39,063	1,36,959	1,40,000	1,25,000	1,33,000	

XXX.—Minor Works and Navigation—

Heads.	1910-11.	1911-12.	1912-13.	1913-14.		1914-15.	Remarks.
	Actuals.	Actuals.	Actuals.	Sanctioned estimate.	Revised estimate.	Budget estimate.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
In charge of the Civil Department.							
Recoveries on account of lands benefited by embankments	55,000	50,031	49,850	51,000	50,000	50,000	This represents receipts in Midnapore under the contract system for the repairing of the zamindari embankments. Estimates based on the actual demands.
Provincial share ...	55,000	25,015	24,925	26,000	25,000	25,000	
In charge of the Public Works Department.							
(Irrigation and Navigation Works.)							
Works for which Capital and Revenue accounts are kept—							
Orissa Coast Canal			16,346	15,000	13,000	17,000	
Calcutta and Eastern Canals ...			4,21,908	4,50,000	3,70,000	3,75,000	Decrease in revised is on account jo deficiency in the rice and jute crop.
Madaripur Bhil scheme			1,03,225	1,25,000	84,000	92,000	Decrease in revised is for falling off on account of concessions granted to passenger steamers.
Total ...			5,41,479	5,90,000	4,67,000	4,84,000	
Works for which only Revenue accounts are kept—							
Nadia rivers			28,986	28,100	28,250	25,100	
Gaighatta and Buxi *khals*			3,675	4,900	5,250	4,900	
Total ...			32,661	33,000	33,500	30,000	
Works for which neither Capital nor Revenue accounts are kept—							
Eden Canal			36,531	34,000	37,000	37,000	
Total Irrigation and Navigation Works ...			6,10,671	6,57,000	5,37,500	5,51,000	

(Agricultural Works)						
Works for which only Revenue accounts are kept—						
Magra Hât drainage project ..			2,480	4,000	4,500	34,000
Works for which neither Capital nor Revenue accounts are kept—						
Government embankments ... ... Takavi embankments under contract ...			27,059	24,000	24,000	25,000
Total Agricultural Works ...			29,539	28,000	28,500	59,000
Total in charge of the Public Works Department	5,53,000	6,73,000	6,40,210	6,85,000	5,66,000	6,10,000
Provincial share ...	5,53,000	3,36,000	3,20,105	3,42,000	2,83,000	3,05,000

XXXII.—Civil Works—

IN CHARGE OF THE CIVIL DEPARTMENT.							
Tolls on ferries		1,43,602	1,33,829	1,44,200	1,33,500	1,33,000	
Cemetery receipts		1,122	1,191	1,300	500	1,400	
Receipts from staging bungalows and encamping grounds		7,159	3,905	5,000	5,000	5,000	
Miscellaneous		3,379	3,598	4,500	5,000	4,500	
For rounding ...		.....	.....	.....	...	+100	
Total in charge of the Civil Department	1,53,000	1,55,263	1,42,523	1,55,000	1,44,000	1,44,000	Revised based on the actuals of the first nine months. Budget follows revised.
IN CHARGE OF THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.							
Total gross receipts ...	3,71,000	4,62,000	3,85,036	3,69,000	4,14,000		Increase in revised is due to the sale of certain buildings.

APPENDIX B.

Bengal Provincial Expenditure, in detail of minor heads.

[Figures in columns 6 and 7 are those provisionally passed by the Government of India.]

[The remarks in column 8, except where otherwise specially explained, refer to difference between columns 5 and 7.]

1.—Refunds and Drawbacks—

Heads.	Actuals. 1910-11.	Actuals. 1911-12.	Actuals. 1912-13.	1913-14. Sanctioned estimate.	1913-14. Revised estimate.	1914-15. Budget estimate.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Land Revenue	46,000	39,012	21,090	25,000	19,000	25,000	There were special payments of Rs. 22,500 in 1910-11 and Rs. 6,500 in 1911-12.
Stamps	91,500	89,636	94,552	87,000	83,000	87,000	The actuals of 1912-13 include special payments of Rs. 14,000.
Excise	5,500	4,510	13,604	10,000	13,000	10,000	The charges are wholly Provincial from 1912-13.
Assessed Taxes	6,500	8,194	8,366	7,000	18,000	8,000	Revised includes a special payment of Rs. 8,000.
Forest	1,500	5,704	1,274	3,000	2,000	1,000	
Provincial Rates	5,000	1,692	747	4,000	...	...	
Registration	3,000	6,376	4,502	5,000	3,000	4,000	
Total ...	1,59,000	1,55,124	1,44,036	1,41,000	1,38,000	1,35,000	Revised based on the actuals of the first nine months. Budget based on the average actuals of the past three years, omitting special payments.

2.—Assignments and Compensations—

Land Revenue compensation	.....	7,500	.....	6	.....	6	
Pension in lieu of resumed lands	1,000	854	927	1,000	1,000	1,000	
Malikana	34,000	29,293	49,978	32,000	44,000	42,000	This is a fluctuating head.
Excise compensation	1,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
For rounding	...	.....	.....	—6	.....	—6	
Total ..	36,000	37,647	50,905	33,000	45,000	43,000	Revised based on the actuals of the first nine months. Budget provides for actual claims.

3.—Land Revenue—

Charges of District Administration—							
General Establishment		24,65,220	23,96,938	24,70,000	24,25,000	25,24,000	Decrease in revised is for savings under "Salaries." Budget includes provision for Additional Magistrate of the 24-Parganas, for revision of kanungo establishment, Rs. 40,000 for a launch for the Collector of Faridpur and Rs. 10,000 for the purchase of iron safes for district and subdivisional treasuries.

... ...		—11,197	—23,624	—6,600	—24,000	—13,000	Revised provides for larger recoveries for partition work.
Record-room (or copy-making) Establishment		23,529	17,790	20,000	16,000	19,000	
Survey of waste-lands		1,587	8,136	2,000	2,000	2,000	
Management of Private Estates under Act X of 1892		26,864	22,729	23,000	23,000	24,000	
For rounding		.....	.....	—150	.....	.....	
Total ...	23,31,000	26,68,681	25,81,448	26,50,000	26,09,000	27,01,000	
Charges on account of Land Revenue collections	8,000	11,670	13,280	10,000	13,000	10,000	
Charges on account of Fishery collections ...	8,000	2,667	250	1,000	.....	.....	
Management of Government Estates—							
Collection of revenue		3,32,110	2,77,208	3,26,000	2,77,000	3,19,000	
Outlay on improvements		2,08,709	1,62,571	1,46,000	1,64,000	2,49,000	Budget includes Rs. 50,000 for additional expenditure on improvements and Rs. 67,000 for the reclamation of Sunderbans in the district of Bakarganj.
Total ...	4,04,000	5,40,819	4,39,779	4,72,000	4,41,000	5,68,000	
Survey and Settlement—							
Controlling Office (survey)		3,591	—224	.....	.....	.....	
Other survey operations—							
Bengal Drawing Office		27,712	8,696	30,854	9,000	52,164	
Other operations		24,827	46,776	70,275	87,000	96,998	Revised includes Rs. 37,000 for the new Survey School at Comilla by transfer from Education. Budget includes Rs. 42,755 for the same and Rs. 10,000 for training class for kanungoes and others.
Minor settlement operations ...		59,287	19,545	20,000	....	.....	
Other ditto		51,960	32,084	60,871	79,000	63,771	
For rounding	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	67	
Total ...	88,000	1,67,377	1,35,877	1,82,000	1,75,000	2,13,000	Budget based on actual requirements.
Land Records—							
Superintendence		80,618	41,985	1,000	1,000	11,000	Budget includes provision for the revision of the office of the Director of Land Records, while smaller reduction has been made as the share of cost chargeable to Imperial Settlements.
District charges		38,025	23,509	32,000	25,000	30,000	
Total ...	78,000	1,18,643	65,494	33,000	26,000	41,000	
GRAND TOTAL ...	29,17,000	35,09,257	32,36,128	33,48,000	32,64,000	35,33,000	Revised based on the actuals of the first nine months.

6.—Stamps—

Heads.	Actuals. 1910-11.	Actuals. 1911-12.	Actuals. 1912-13.	1913-14. Sanctioned estimate.	1913-14. Revised estimate.	1914-15. Budget estimate.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Superintendence—							
Presidency Executive Establishment ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
District Establishment	30,000	26,579	28,133	30,000	26,000	30,000	
Total ...	30,000	26,579	28,133	30,000	26,000	30,000	
Charges for the sale of general stamps—							
Discount on sale of bills-of-exchange or hundies		5,773	6,323	6,000	9,000	9,000	Revised based on the actuals of the first nine months. Budget follows the revised.
Discount on sale of other general stamps		1,80,510	2,03,659	1,99,000	2,26,000	2,26,000	
Total ...	1,79,000	1,86,283	2,09,982	2,05,000	2,35,000	2,35,000	
Charges on sale of court-fee stamps—							
Discount on sale of adhesive stamps ...		1,03,214	1,03,359	1,11,000	1,08,000	1,08,000	
Discount on sale of stamps for copies ...		9,124	6,117	9,000	8,500	8,500	
Establishment for sale of stamps ...		1,362	1,033	1,494	1,500	1,494	
For rounding		.....	.....	—494	.....	6	
Total ...	1,09,000	1,13,700	1,10,500	1,21,000	1,18,000	1,18,000	
Discount on plain paper	17,000	18,523	18,309	19,000	19,000	19,000	
Stamp paper supplied from Central Stores ...	2,73,000	2,99,928	3,40,446	3,50,000	3,29,000	3,50,000	The figures furnished by the Controller of Stamps and Stationery for both 1913-14 and 1914-15 adopted.
Grand Total ...	6,08,000	6,45,013	7,07,370	7,35,000	7,27,000	7,52,000	
Provincial share	3,04,000	3,22,507	3,53,685	3,62,000	3,63,000	3,76,000	

Superintendence	91,000	1,02,928	80,416	94,000	1,01,000	1,03,000	Increase is due to increase in grade pay of the Commissioner.
Presidency Establishment—							
Calcutta Collectorate (office)		41,866	48,494	47,856	47,000	45,888	
Inspection and Prevention		25,509	22,409	20,604	23,000	21,204	
Allowances and contingencies... ...		26,780	28,322	26,653	25,000	28,391	
For rounding			.....	—113		—483	
Total ...	84,000	94,155	99,225	95,000	95,000	95,000	
istrict Executive Establishment—							
Sadar Establishment		73,687	73,897	1,18,145	77,000	2,21,601	Decrease in revised is due to lapse of the lump provision for reorganization. Budget includes Rs. 1,50,000 for the same.
Inspection and Prevention		1,37,329	1,36,035	1,37,193	1,34,000	1,36,341	
Allowances, etc.		90,690	87,553	94,540	92,000	93,538	
Bonus		5,353	53	.....	.....	.....	
						4,51,480	
For rounding		.....	.....	+122	.....	—480	
Total ...	3,23,000	3,07,059	2,97,538	3,50,000	3,03,000	4,51,000	
tilleries—							
Presidency Establishment	94,000	13,869	13,690	14,000	11,000	13,000	
District Establishment		1,12,735	1,06,788	1,16,000	1,19,000	2,15,000	Budget includes Rs. 50,000 for the construction of residences and Rs. 50,000 for launches and boats.
Lump addition by Government ...		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Bonus		978	.....	.....	.....	.....	
GRAND TOTAL ...	5,92,000	6,31,724	5,97,657	6,69,000	6,29,000	8,77,000	
Provincial share	2,96,000	4,73,793	5,97,657	6,69,000	6,29,000	8,77,000	Revised based on the actuals of the first nine months.

9.—*Provincial Rates*—

Heads.	Actuals.			1913-14.		1914-15.	Remarks.
	1910-11.	1911-12.	1912-13.	Sanctioned estimate.	Revised estimate.	Budget estimate.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Collection of rates and cesses		80,436	62,050	65,000	62,000	63,000	
Valuation and re-valuation		91,859	84,320	1,27,000	1,30,000	1,15,000	Budget based on actual requirements.
Bonus		1,591	245	.....	.....		
Total ...		1,73,886	1,46,615	1,92,000	1,92,000	1,78,000	
Deduct—							
Proportion debitable to Local for cost of road-cess collection ...		1,18,019	1,07,406	1,92,000	1,92,000	1,78,000	
Proportion debitable to Local for revaluation							
One-third share of recoveries on account of collection of arrear cesses		566					
Contribution for pension of the Cess-collecting Establishment ...		5,514					
Total ...	44,060	19,787	39,209	.....	.....	.....	These charges will be incurred by the District Officers in the first instance and ultimately recovered from District Boards who are now getting the Public Works Cess, so that nothing will fall on Provincial Revenues.

10.—*Assessed Taxes*—

Calcutta Establishment		91,286	91,378	93,000	94,000	87,000	No provision has been made for the Income-tax Branch of the Board's establishment, as it has now been amalgamated with the Civil Secretariat.
District ditto		63,465	61,559	64,000	63,000	64,000	
Bonus		1,482	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Total ...	1,51,000	1,56,233	1,52,937	1,57,000	1,57,000	1,51,000	
Provincial share ...	75,000	78,116	76,469	78,000	78,000	75,000	

A.—Conservancy and Works.							
I.—Timber and other produce removed from the forests by Government agency		63,819	36,767	1,000	2,000	1,200	
II.—Timber and other produce removed from the forests by consumers and purchasers		1,02,281	1,12,100	1,07,000	1,14,000	1,32,650	Revised includes arrear adjustments of 1912-13. Budget includes provision for new boilers for launches *Hawk* and *Helen Grey* and construction of new boats to replace old ones for the Sunderbans Division.
III.—Confiscated drift and waif wood ...		2,406	1,370	1,000	1,000	1,200	
V.—Rent of leased forests, and payment to share-holders in forests managed by Government		25	1,096	1,100	1,000	1,500	
VI.—Live-stock, stores, tools and plant ...		44,227	18,192	29,500	18,000	32,500	Budget includes provision for the purchase of two elephants for Chittagong Hill tracts Division.
VII—Communications and buildings ...		71,739	1,14,704	96,700	1,18,000	1,31,900	Budget includes provision for the construction of Divisional bungalow at Kalimpong, Rest-houses at Gadadhar, Buxa and Chittagong Hill tracts, Divisional Officer's quarters at Buxa-Duars and Inspection bungalows in Singalila Range, Darjeeling, and at Satkania in Chittagong
III.—Demarcation, improvement and extension of forests		34,590	44,545	59,500	48,000	71,950	Budget includes cost of settlement and compensation for lands and rights in Jalpaiguri, and provision for climber-cutting in Tista, Jalpaiguri and Buxa.
IX.—Miscellaneous		4,433	3,309	4,200	2,000	4,450	
For rounding		.....	...	.....	.....	—350	
Total A.—Conservancy and Works ..	3,41,000	3,23,520	3,32,083	3,00,000	3,04,000	3,77,000	
B.—Establishment.							
I.—Salaries		2,86,252	2,49,895	2,92,000	2,55,000	2,64,000	Decrease due to savings under "Salaries."
II.—Allowances		77,431	64,878	60,250	67,000	71,000	Budget includes provision for practical training allowances, as well as stipends for students at Dehra Dun College.
III.—Contingencies		15,841	13,928	14,478	14,000	15,144	
For rounding		.....	.....	+272	.....	—144	
Total B.—Establishment	3,22,000	3,79,524	3,28,711	3,76,000	3,36,000	3,50,000	Revised based on the actuals of the first nine months.
Bonus	.....	3,174	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Total A and B ...	6,62,000	7,06,218	6,60,794	6,76,000	6,40,000	7,27,000	
Provincial share	2,31,000	7,06,218	6,60,794	6,76,000	6,40,000	7,27,000	

12.—Registration—

Heads.	Actuals.			1913-14.		1914-15.	Remarks.
	1910-11.	1911-12.	1912-13.	Sanctioned estimate.	Revised estimate.	Budget estimate.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Superintendence	65,000	81,370	70,135	68,000	71,000	75,000	Budget includes provision of Rs. 6,222 for re-grant of savings in the allotment for contract contingencies.
District Charges—							
Registrar of joint stock companies ...		.....	.....	... ..	. ...	21,900	
Calcutta		29,367	30,756	32,500	31,000	28,000	Budget omits provision of the Sub-Registry office at Bara Bazar, Calcutta.
District Sub-Registrars ... ... / Sub-Registrars		9,53,282	9,49,109	10,14,000	9,98,000	10,73,100	Decrease in revised is due to non-utilization of the provision for revision of District Sub-Registrars' establishment. Budget provides Rs. 8,100 for increase of salary of District Sub-Registrars, Rs. 10,000 for increase of leave reserve, Rs. 45,610 for revision of District Sub-Registry offices, Rs. 4,500 for revision of the cadre of Sub-Registrars, Rs. 1,800 for increase in the allowance from Rs. 20 to Rs. 30 for probationers, Rs. 3,000 for the purchase of typewriters and Rs. 3,000 for cost of remitting salaries.
Ex-officio Sub-Registrars		3,387	903	1,500	1,000	1,000	
Total District Charges	9,63,000	9,86,036	9,80,768	10,48,000	10,30,000	11,24,000	Revised based on the actuals of the first nine months.
Grand Total ...	10,28,000	10,67,406	10,50,503	11,16,000	11,01,000	11,99,000	

13.—Interest on Ordinary Debt—

Interest on Provincial Advance and Loan Account	4,85,000	5,10,365	4,42,546	4,33,000	4,39,000	4,34,000	Both revised and budget are based on the estimated mean

Salary of the Governor	1,44,000	1,40,791	1,29,096	1,20,000	1,20,000	1,20,000	
Staff and household of the Governor ...	1,30,000	1,55,692	4,22,279	2,95,000	2,75,000	3,28,000	Decrease in revised is due to savings in the grant for establishments as a portion of the charge was debited to the Civil Secretariat. Budget includes provision for special repairs to broad gauge railway saloon and for larger grant for contingencies of the Military Secretary and the Private Secretary to Governor. The actuals of 1912-13 include initial expenditure on furniture, band and horses, saddle, etc., of body-guard.
Tour and establishment grant	57,000	85,338	1,48,628	1,00,000	1,30,000	1,00,600	Increase in revised is for larger expenditure on tour charges.
Delhi Coronation Durbar	1,000	11,35,299	22,146	.....	.....	.....	
Tour expenses	8,000	11,128	... ..	.....	... ..	.....	
Legislative Department	1,15,000	1,10,472	1,03,961	1,15,000	1,46,000	1,28,000	Revised includes initial expenditure on books and furniture for the library of the Legislative Council, and larger expenditure on establishment. Budget includes larger grant for the purchase of books and for allowances to reporters and for establishment.
Civil Secretariat	7,35,000	9,52,827	7,61,442	7,19,000	8,40,000	8,06,000	Increase is due to the creation of the fourth Secretary and transfer of a portion of the Board's establishment to the Civil Secretariat. Increase in revised is for officers on special duty as well as for the creation of the fourth Secretary and transfer of establishment charges.
Executive Council	53,000	1,85,600	2,15,680	2,12,000	2,27,000	2,15,000	Increase in revised is for heavier tour charges and contingencies.
Board of Revenue	4,38,000	3,88,450	2,47,992	2,34,000	2,11,000	1,44,000	Decrease due to the abolition of the post of second Secretary and transfer of assistants to the Civil Secretariat.
Commissioners	3,96,000	4,41,381	3,93,518	3,98,000	4,10,000	4,04,000	Increase in revised is for larger expenditure on salaries and on dockyard supplies.
Civil offices of Account and Audit ...	90,000	1,08,925	1,01,970	1,09,000	95,000	1,05,000	Decrease in revised is for savings under "Salaries and Allowances."
Inspector-General of Stamps, Excise and Registration	7,000	19,119	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Total ...	21,74,000	27,35,022	25,46,712	23,02,000	24,54,000	23,53,000	Revised based on the actuals of the first nine months.

19A.—Courts of Law—

Heads.	Actuals. 1910-11.	Actuals. 1911-12.	Actuals. 1912-13.	1913-14. Sanctioned estimate.	1913-14. Revised estimate.	1914-15. Budget estimate.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
High Court—							
Judges		7,67,667	9,19,575	9,44,000	9,48,000	9,90,000	Budget includes provision for a new Judge.
Original Side		3,29,130	3,19,711	3,43,000	3,36,000	3,38,000	Decrease in revised is for non-appointment of the Registrar of Insolvency. Budget includes provision for three shorthand writers recently sanctioned by the Government of India while the owners' share of taxes will now be paid by the Public Works Department and hence the decrease
Appellate Side		3,24,135	3,24,438	3,53,000	4,03,000	4,35,000	Budget includes provision for the establishment of the new Judge and for the new Inspector of Judicial offices sanctioned by the Secretary of State and his establishment, as well as Rs. 10,000 for re-wiring the electric installation and Rs 2,000 for preserving memorial portraits
Copyists' Establishment		51,856	.....	45,000	.....	.....	Included under Appellate Side above.
Reporters		24,876	24,878	25,000	25,000	25,000	
Bonus		4,595	8	.....	.....	.....	
Total .	14,28,000	14,93,253	16,58,610	17,10,000	17,12,000	17,88,000	
Law Officers—							
English Law Officers		1,31,378	1,29,837	1,33,000	1,20,000	1,33,000	
Legal Remembrancer and High Court Pleaders		8,91,946	5,89,666	3,05,000	4,12,000	3,82,000	Revised includes provision for fees to Counsel in Damuder Diara case. Budget includes large provision for fees to Counsel with reference to past actuals.
Mufassal Establishment		3,96,636	2,60,137	2,78,000	4,02,000	2,91,000	Revised includes provision for fees to Counsel in Barisa conspiracy case.
Bonus		273	− 84	.....	.....	.....	
Total ...	14,53,000	14,20,133	9,79,556	7,16,000	9,34,000	8,06,000	
Coroner's Court	8,000	7,795	7,307	8,000	8,000	8,000	
Presidency Magistrates—							
Calcutta Police Court	1,53,000	1,24,218	1,13,731	1,28,000	1,27,000	1,33,000	Budget includes provision for additional establishment for the separation of the Magistrates' Courts.
Municipal Magistrate's Court		10,517	7,974	8,000	8,000	8,000	
Court for juvenile offenders and house of detention	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	18,000	Includes Rs. 9,400 for recurring charges and Rs. 8,000 for non-recurring and initial expenditure.

Civil and Sessions Courts—							
District and Sessions Judges		10,86,951	10,74,868	10,77,888	10,84,000	11,11,000	
Subordinate Judges		4,52,513	4,41,166	4,47,150	4,79,000	5,17,086	Increase in both revised and budget is due to revision of Subordinate Judicial Service sanctioned by the Secretary of State.
Mufassal Small Cause Courts ...		24,683	17,756	17,736	18,000	16,728	
Munsifs		15,96,143	15,48,738	15,74,392	16,24,000	15,90,060	Increase in both revised and budget is due to revision of Subordinate Judicial Service sanctioned by the Secretary of State.
Allowances		55,917	42,461	36,282	53,000	35,449	Revised includes the charges for grain allowance provided for in the Miscellaneous Budget
Supplies and Services		4,60,608	4,55,719	4,68,000	4,58,000	5,06,424	Provision made for larger grants for remuneration to copyists.
Contingencies		1,49,877	1,64,614	1,67,988	1,80,000	1,62,070	
Process-serving Establishment ...		7,63,373	7,30,720	8,16,943	7,71,000	7,74,864	
Bonus		57,537	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Deduct—Probable savings ...		.....	.....	−6,379	.....	+328	
Total	43,20,000	46,47,602	44,76,042	46,00,000	46,67,000	47,14,000	
Presidency Court of Small Causes ...	1,71,000	1,65,836	1,61,324	1,84,000	1,84,000	1,96,000	
Criminal Courts—							
General Establishment	20,05,000	20,33,495	19,82,411	20,06,000	20,37,000	20,66,000	Budget includes larger grant for travelling allowances, supplies and services and contingencies.
Subdivisional Establishment		1,62,079	1,59,479	1,41,750	1,67,000	1,45,000	
Revision of chowkidari panchayets ...		2,956	2,356	27,000	27,000	52,000	Budget includes Rs. 40,000 for Additional Sub-Deputy Collectors as Circle Officers, sanctioned by the Secretary of State.
Police Case Hospitals	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5,000	This is for Police Case Hospitals in Alipore and Barrackpore.
For rounding	.....	.....	.....	+250	.....	.....	
Total .	20,05,000	21,98,530	21,44,246	21,75,000	22,31,000	22,68,000	
leadership Examination charges ..	15,000	17,231	16,979	18,000	18,000	20,000	
efunds	64,000	58,958	67,623	63,000	64,000	64,000	
amp deduction	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	−70,000	
Total ...	96,17,000	1,01,44,720	96,39,400	96,10,000	99,53,000	99,53,000	Revised based on the actuals of the first nine months.

19 B—Jails—

Heads.	Actuals. 1910-11.	Actuals. 1911-12.	Actuals. 1912-13.	1913-14. Sanctioned estimate.	1913-14. Revised estimate.	1914-1 Budget estimate.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Superintendence		86,422	65,797	61,000	60,000	59,000	Decrease due to appointment of Personel Assistant on minimum pay.
Establishments—							
Superintendents and Jailors ...		2,05,954	2,03,542	2,06,200	2,02,000	2,07,000	
Medical		31,406	29,910	35,500	35,500	33,000	
Clerical, Educational and Mechanical ..		12,206	10,770	19,000	12,500	12,000	
Warder		2,13,979	2,03,397	2,10,000	2,15,500	2,50,000	Budget includes Rs. 40,000 for the revision of warders service.
Menial and other		2,671	3,669	1,000	2,500	1,000	
Dietary charges		3,96,443	4,77,981	4,17,500	5,67,000	5,00,000	Increase is due to the increase in the price of food-grains.
Hospital charges		66,767	71,676	60,900	63,000	62,000	
Clothing and bedding of prisoners ...		63,138	54,479	68,000	54,000	66,000	
Sanitation charges		24,713	22,879	27,000	24,000	24,000	
Charges for moving prisoners		29,492	35,943	37,000	38,000	42,000	Budget based on actual requirements.
Miscellaneous services and supplies ...		1,12,921	1,01,286	1,23,500	1,10,000	1,18,000	
Allowances		16,834	12,680	11,000	15,000	11,000	
Contingent charges		64,648	82,951	90,000	94,000	57,000	
Extraordinary charges for live-stock, tools and plant		20,902	18,122	22,800	22,000	22,000	
Charges for police custody		20,573	18,235	22,000	17,000	20,000	
Bonus		8,888	—123	.....	.....	.....	
Charges for the distribution of quinine by the Juvenile Jail		... .	4,207	5,000	5,000	5,000	
For rounding		.....	.....	—400	.....	.....	
Total Jails ...	15,19,000	13,77,957	14,17,401	14,17,000	15,37,000	14,89,000	
Jail manufactures	5,51,000	6,68,208	5,14,013	6,61,000	7,39,000	5,86,000	Increase in revised is for larger purchase of raw materials chiefly for the Presidency Jail at Alipore. Smaller provision has been made in budget for raw materials and contingencies of the manufacturing department on the basis of actual requirements
Refunds	.....	5,167	418	1,000	.....	500	
For rounding	.....	.....	.....	... ..	... ..	+500	
Total ...	20,70,000	20,51,332	19,31,832	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	

Presidency Police—							
Police Commissioner (Superintendence) ...		1,47,741	1,38,337	1,47,000	1,53,000	1,52,000	Budget includes provision for increased conveyance allowance of Deputy Commissioners sanctioned by the Government of India.
Calcutta Police		11,71,977	12,15,093	13,86,300	13,42,000	13,55,206	Decrease in revised is for abolition of an appointment of Superintendent and for savings in the grant for Police force. Budget includes provision for additional Police force for Criminal Investigation Department and Special Branch, Calcutta, and additional Police staff in connection with the scheme for the decentralization of the Police Court at Lal Bazar.
Hospital charges		23,171	32,258	32,000	35,000	38,856	Budget includes increased grant for diet due to increased rate sanctioned.
Special Police		38,739	35,522	37,000	40,000	39,000	
Cattle pounds		2,322	2,887	2,500	3,000	2,938	
River Police		26,597	20,674	23,000	23,000	28,000	Budget includes provision for additional Police staff to regulate traffic at landing stages of Port Commissioners' Ferry service and provision for a new steam cutter and crew.
Police dead-house		1,673	2,093	2,600	3,000	2,700	
Bonus		23,680	2,256	.....	.....	.....	
Lump provision		.....	.....	2,600	16,000	1,04,455	Decrease in the revised is for non-utilization of the full grant for raising the reserve to its authorized strength. Budget is made up of Rs. 65,000 for raising the reserve to its authorized strength, Rs. 33,455 for the Calcutta Police Training School and Rs. 6,000 for additional Police force to guard the Government Dockyard, Kidderpore.
For rounding		.....	.....	.....	.....	—155	
Total ...	13,23,000	14,35,900	14,49,110	16,60,000	16,15,000	17,23,000	
Superintendence	2,56,000	3,01,982	2,22,171	2,25,000	2,69,000	2,62,000	Increase in revised is for officers on special duty, and larger expenditure under contingencies. Budget includes Rs. 6,000 for the revision of the office establishment of the Inspector-General of Police and Rs. 25,600 for the appointment of a fourth Range Deputy Inspector-General of Police.

20 – *Police*—continued.

Heads.	Actuals. 1910-11.	Actuals. 1911-12	Actuals. 1912-13.	1913-14. Sanctioned estimate.	1913-14. Revised estimate.	1914-15. Budget estimate.	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
District Police Force—	Rs	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs	Rs.	
Salaries		5,39,798	5,58,525	5,[illegible]0,000	5,80,000	5,50,000	In the budget for 1913-14 larger deduction was made for probable savings which was not realized
Police Force		29,43,647	30,60,900	[illegible],50,000	32,43,000	34,00,000	Increase is due to additional appointments sanctioned during the year.
Training Schools		1,01,839	1,23,111	1,19,000	1,38,000	1,62,000	Increase is due to additional staff for the schools at Rampur Boalia, Berhampore and Dacca.
Establishment		1,92,899	1,99,662	2,02,000	2,12,000	2,02,000	
Hospital charges		41,087	46,267	45,000	48,000	49,000	
Allowances		5,63,671	5,[illegible]0,455	5,00,000	5,95,000	5,40,000	Increase in revised is for the debit of the charges for grain allowance to this head by transfer from "Miscellaneous." Increase in budget is due to increased provision for local allowances of constables drawing minimum pay in the Eastern Bengal districts and for travelling allowances with reference to actuals.
Supplies and Services		6,15,154	6,42,299	6,72,000	6,76,000	7,1[illegible],000	Budget includes larger provision for escort charges, ordnance stores, cost of telephone lines and clothing and also provision for the purchase of a new boat for the Superintendent of Police, Noakhali.
Contingencies		2,35,1[illegible]1	2,41,040	2,76,000	2,76,000	2,62,000	
Other Police		3,17,347	2,94,402	7,01,000	5,04,000	7,50,000	Budget includes Rs. 5,22,000 for the re-organization of the River Police in the Eastern Bengal districts against Rs. 4,50,000 in 1913-14. Decrease in revised is for non-utilization of the full provision for re-organization.
Bonus		93,192	—438	.....	.. ...	.....	
Lump provision of additional force and Police reforms		.. ...	.....	5,17,508	2,02,000	14,46,000	Decrease in revised is due to the debit to appropriate heads. Budget includes the following items :— Reorganization of the Subordinate Police of the Eastern Bengal districts— Rs. Recurring .. .. 91,470 Non-recurring ... ... 3,13,385 Revision of Superior Police cadre ... 33,600 Extra cost in connection with the division of the [illegible] between

For rounding ...		.....	.....	−508	... .	.. ...	
Total ...	52,97,000	56,43,735	56,96,249	67,22,000	64,74,000	80,74,000	
Village Police	26,000	24,386	19,874	23,000	16,000	30,000	Budget includes larger provision for rewards to panchayats for good work.
Criminal Investigation Department ...	6,94,000	6,23,503	4,06,163	3,83,000	4,30,000	4,95,000	Budget includes provision for additional temporary force sanctioned for the Intelligence Branch and for larger grant for travelling allowances.
Special Police—							
Assam Frontier Police		184	291	.....	.....	...	
Bengal Military Police		2,94,717	2,51,826	1,97,000	2,14,000	1,87,000	
Frontier Police, Chittagong		45,009	42,841	48,000	44,000	48,600	
Upper Burma Police charges		6,125	6,032	6,000	6,000	6,400	
Bonus		3,994	63	.....	.. ...	.. ...	
Total ..	3,43,000	3,50,059	3,01,053	2,51,000	2,64,000	2,42,000	
Railway Police—							
Jorhat State Railway Police		...	1,557	.....	1,500	.....	
Debru-Sadiya Railway Police		1,951	2,537	.....	2,500	.....	
Dacca-Mymensingh Railway Police ...		1,954	3,599	.....	4,000	.....	
East Indian Railway Police		84,922	79,901	1,06,000	85,000	1,09,000	Budget includes additional staff for police-stations at Jhajha and Ondal.
Eastern System Railway Police ...		1,84,258	1,73,252	2,10,000	2,03,000	2,10,000	
Bengal and North-Western and Tirhut State Railway Police		6,849	32	.....	21,000	.....	

staff	53,808
Increase of pay of Head-constables and Constables	4,75,000
Increase of pay of daffadars	18,314
Introduction of station boat system in Bakarganj	2,808
Launch for Deputy Inspector-General, Dacca ...	18,135
Do. for Assistant Superintendent of Police, Munshiganj	38,938
Alterations to *Warden*	8,090
Settling of *Karwal nuts* of the Rajshahi Division under the Criminal Tribes Act—	
Non-recurring	23,000
Recurring	3,600
Strengthening of armed police reserve ...	13,934
Armed posts at Madaripur	12,168
Increase of pay of Sergeants	9,000
Increase of cadre of Deputy Superintendents . .	17,100
Strengthening of head-quarters treasury guard	6,386
Armed posts in the Dacca Division ...	27,720
Raising of the conveyance allowance of subordinate police officers	43,900
Strengthening of the armed reserve in Western Bengal	20,220
Reorganization of Military Police	79,197
Establishment of new police-stations in Asansol	23,144
Supply of mosquito nets	17,600
Purchase of iron cots	10,000
Station boat scheme	12,878

20.—*Police*—concluded.

Heads	Actuals. 1910-11.	Actuals. 1911-12.	Actuals. 1912-13.	1913-14 Sanctioned estimate.	1913-14 Revised estimate.	1914-15. Budget estimate.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Bengal-Nagpur Railway Police ...		25,059	29,516	.....	.....	.....	
Assam Bengal Railway Police ...		19,411	18,557	.....	19,000	.....	
Bonus		2,777	21	.....	.....	.....	
Total ...	3,10,000	3,27,181	3,01,972	3,16,000	3,36,000	3,19,000	
Cattle-pounds	1,000	291	134	300	200	250	
Refunds	4,000	1,174	3,133	1,700	3,800	2,750	
Lump deduction	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	—2,50,000	
Grand Total ...	81,54,000	87,08,211	83,99,859	95,82,000	94,08,000	1,08,98,000	Revised based on the actuals of the first nine months.

21.—*Ports and Pilotage*—

Salaries and allowances of officers and men afloat	1,09,000	1,06,186	1,24,693	1,17,000	1,16,000	1,18,000	
Victualling of officers and men afloat ...	37,000	33,546	27,771	30,000	32,000	32,000	Increase is for mess allowances of officers of *Fraser* and *Lady Fraser*.
Purchase of marine stores and coal for the building, repairs and outfit of ships and vessels	2,01,000	1,24,486	1,22,569	1,50,000	1,50,000	1,40,000	Budget based on actual requirements.
Purchase and hire of ships and vessels ..	9,000	8,711	16,850	25,000	25,000	20,000	This represents the cost of towing the State-yacht *Rhotas* during His Excellency's river tours.
Pilotage and Pilot establishment ...	7,74,000	8,30,619	8,18,545	8,70,000	7,76,000	8,20,000	Decrease in revised follow the decline in pilotage receipts. Increase in budget due to anticipated trade activity and consequent increased charges.
Marine establishment	87,000	1,75,258	53,763	1,30,000	1,34,000	1,33,000	Increase is for increased charges of overtime fees.
Subsidies to Steam-boat Companies ...	13,000	7,823	8,434	3,900	7,000	7,300	Includes annual subsidy of Rs. 3,000 to the Rivers Steam Navigation Company and quarterly subsidy of Rs. 80 to the India General Steam Navigation Company.
Miscellaneous	34,000	23,500	29,329	31,000	1,81,000	2,53,000	Both revised and budget include the payment of Rs. 1,50,000 to the Chittagong Port Fund.
State-yacht establishment	20,000	14,273	9,906	13,700	10,000	12,000	Estimate based on probable requirements.
Refunds	3,000	3,624	4,089	3,600	5,000	4,000	
Lump deduction	.....	.....	.....	—200	.....	—300	

Calcutta University	96,000	66,028	5,15,000	53,500 65,000	1,18,500	1,20,000	The actuals of 1912-13 included a special Imperial non-recurring grant of 4 lakhs.
Direction	1,12,000	2,17,189	1,78,080	1,40,000	1,44,000	1,67,000	Budget includes provision for 3 Assistant Directors, including Officer for Muhammadan education, and reorganization of the office establishment of the Director of Public Instruction, and larger grant for travelling allowance and contingencies required for the Assistant Director of Public Instruction for Muhammadan Education.
Inspection—							
Inspectors of European Schools ...		22,789	18,162	12,000	11,500	12,000	
Inspectors of other schools		7,58,883	7,38,617	7,70,000	7,37,000	7,45,000	Decrease due to provision being made for the payment of owner's share of taxes on Government buildings by the Public Works Department, and also for larger probable savings with reference to actuals.
Inspector of hostels and students' messes ...		13	.....	3,700	4,000	4,000	
Inspector of technical schools and of industries		16,076	25,769	26,300	26,500	28,000	
Bonus		6,719	110	.....			
Total ...	1,31,000	3,04,480	7,82,598	8,12,000	7,79,000	7,89,000	
Government Colleges—General—							
English Colleges—							
Arts Colleges for boys		7,08,557	7,45,673	7,17,000	7,47,000	7,86,000	Budget includes provision for a whole-time Professor of Geology and a Professor of Botany for Presidency College and other additional Professors for Hooghly, Dacca and Rajshahi Colleges, and personal allowances of certain professors and heads of Colleges and larger grant for Scientific Research.
Ditto for girls		31,814	30,655	33,000	33,000	34,000	Increase is for larger grant for boarding charges.
Eden Hindu Hostel		33,683	30,391	35,000	32,000	30,000	Decrease is due to the exclusion of the owner's share of taxes of hostel building.
Oriental Colleges—							
Sanskrit College		32,384	33,425	32,000	32,000	31,000	Decrease is due to the exclusion of the college buildings.
Elliott Madrassah and other attached hostels		9,922	10,065	12,726	12,000	12,762	
Cost of maintaining messes attached to Government Colleges in Calcutta ..		...	.....	5,940	... .	5,808	
Lump provision for Collegiate education in Eastern Bengal		...	.....	40,000	... ...	... ..	Transferred to "Grants-in-aid."
Bonus		1,616	... ...	.....	.....	.....	
Deduct—Probable savings ...		.....	.....	—666	.....	—570	
Total ..	6,95,000	8,17,976	8,50,209	8,75,000	8,56,000	8,99,000	

22.—*Education*—continued.

Heads.	Actuals.			1913-14.		1914-15.	Remarks.
	1910-11.	1911-12.	1912-13.	Sanctioned estimate.	Revised estimate.	Budget estimate.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Government Colleges—Professional—							
Law Colleges		13,250	15,185	17,500	15,000	15,000	Reduced with reference to actual requirements
Civil Engineering College, Sibpur, Howrah		2,59,935	3,20,920	2,80,000	3,08,000	2,79,000	
Mining Instructor in the coal-fields ...		.....	5,658	4,000	4,000	4,000	
Training Colleges for teachers ..		61,302	68,812	91,000	71,000	74,000	Special provision for cost of arrangement required to be made in place of officers deputed to college omitted, while provision has been made for nature study class started in the Dacca Training College.
Bonus		641	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Total ...	3,17,000	3,35,128	4,00,575	3,92,500	3,98,000	3,72,000	
Government Schools—General—							
District School Committees		345	306	450	400	400	
Secondary Schools—							
For boys—							
High Schools		4,99,044	5,00,867	5,21,000	5,02,000	5,01,000	Budget based on actuals. Larger provision was made in 1913-14 for allowances to Superintendents of Hostels, and for purchase of furniture not fully utilized.
Middle English Schools		95,554	88,940	1,01,000	1,05,000	1,19,000	Increase in budget is for enhanced boarding charges of the Victoria Boys' School, Kurseong
Middle Vernacular Schools		4,620	3,169	4,600	3,000	2,600	Budget for 1913-14 included staff for a new school for the Chittagong Hill Tracts not started.
For girls—							
High Schools		85,820	80,594	92,000	91,000	96,000	Provision made for extra teachers and other requirements for Mymensingh and Chittagong Girls' Schools.
Middle English Schools		60,077	59,426	75,000	53,000	79,000	Provision made for Dow Hill School and Faizunnissa Girls' School, Comilla, and additional boarding charges.
Middle Vernacular Schools		5,324	7,713	2,500	6,000	3,000	
Primary Schools—							
For boys—							
Upper Primary Schools		2,840	4,221	.....	.....	.....	Transferred to Lower Primary Schools.
Lower Primary Schools		.....	.....	4,000	1,000	3,000	Reduced with reference to actual requirements.

							... reference to actuals.
...ment in support of local schools under District Boards		5,99,991	11,64,506	6,50,000	14,29,000	2,88,560	Decrease due to the stoppage of the equilibrium grant on the surrender of the Public Works Cess to the District Boards. Revised includes amounts sanctioned from the Imperial non-recurring grants.
Bonus		9,532	—288	.....	.....	.....	
Training of gymnastic masters		.....	.....	5,000	.....	.....	Omitted as there are no actuals.
Provision for the opening of B and C classes in certain High Schools		.....	.....	7,000	.....	.....	Omitted as there are no actuals.
Zenana classes in Eastern Bengal ...		8,004	8,813	12,910	10,000	12,000	
For rounding		.....	.....	—60	.....	+140	
Total ...	12,84,000	14,38,548	19,81,325	15,47,000	22,56,000	11,73,000	
Government Schools - Special—							
Training Schools— For Masters—							
Normal Schools		75,237	87,136	94,000	83,000	85,000	Decrease for smaller provision of stipends to pupil-teachers.
Guru-training Schools		2,13,361	2,14,067	2,79,000	2,40,000	2,53,000	Decrease due to smaller expenditure on stipends.
For Mistresses—							
Training School attached to the Kurseong Boarding School		19,009	23,474	16,000	19,000	26,000	Increase for transfer of charges for stipends to pupil-teachers formerly shown under "Normal Schools" and increased boarding charges.
Training Schools for females at Calcutta		.....	.....	13,832	.....	14,987	Budget includes larger grant for contingencies.
Schools of Art— Calcutta School of Art		39,955	26,830	44,000	29,000	41,000	Revised reduced with reference to actuals of the first eight months. Smaller provision has been made for cost of preparation of artisan edition of Pattern Book.
Contribution to District Boards for special schools in Eastern Bengal		.....	.....	3,976	.....	.....	
Government Art Gallery		10,846	9,840	8,800	10,000	8,900	
Engineering and Survey Schools ..		66,474	83,123	1,21,000	66,000	60,000	Decrease in revised is due to the transfer of charges for Survey School at Comilla to the Survey and Settlement Department under "Land Revenue," and also to the abolition of the electric power-house of the Dacca Engineering School. Budget follows revised and is based on actual requirements.
Technical and Industrial Schools ..		49,096	54,530	72,000	54,000	67,500	Revised follows the actuals of 1912-13. No provision has been made in the budget for 1914-15 for the provincialization of Technical Schools.
Commercial Schools		19,675	24,370	29,600	26,000	30,000	
Madrassahs		74,168	73,590	61,400	72,500	93,000	Budget includes a special additional provision for the maintenance of Madrassahs hitherto debited to the Mohsin Fund which will now be charged here, as the receipts from fees will be credited to Provincial

—Education—concluded.

Heads.	Actuals. 1910-11.	Actuals. 1911-12.	Actuals. 1912-13	1913-14. Sanctioned estimate.	1913-14. Revised estimate.	1914-15. Budget estimate.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Reformatory School		2,520	—20	2,500	.....	.....	
Other miscellaneous schools		722	1,379	5,800	1,500	5,800	
Agricultural classes and agricultural gardens		2,269	.....	2,500	.....	2,500	
Bonus		2,288	114	.....	.....	.....	
Contribution for Mohsin Fund for Madrassahs in Eastern Bengal		.....	.....	18,000	.....	.....	Included under "Madrassahs."
Deduct—Probable savings		.....	.....	—408	.....	+·13	
Total ...	5,76,000	5,75,620	5,98,433	7,72,000	6,01,000	6,88,000	
Grants-in-aid	11,81,000	14,28,094	17,24,594	11,20,000	22,80,000	15,03,000	Increase in revised is due to transfers from provisions for Imperial grants, from the allotments for petty grants by His Excellency, by the Divisional Commissioners and District Magistrates, and for additional grants for female education and C. M. S. College, sanctioned by the Government of India.
Scholarships	1,91,000	2,19,049	2,24,400	2,34,000	2,41,000	2,44,000	
Miscellaneous	1,18,000	2,17,307	1,20,518	1,65,000	7,37,000	1,40,000	Revised includes 6 lakhs for the purchase of a fish market at College Street, Calcutta.
Lump provision for improving popular education	.....	.....	.....	12,57,000	97,000	11,72,000	The charges for 1913-14 are chiefly debited to the "Public Works Department" and partly under "Grants-in-aid."
Lump provision for secondary education ..	.....	.....	.....	1,96,000	.....	1,28,000	The charges for 1913-14 are adjusted under "Grants-in aid."
Lump provision for female education (recurring)	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	50,000	
Lump provision for hostel buildings outside Calcutta and Dacca	.....	.....	.....	2,40,000	.....	2,17,000	The charges for 1913-14 are chiefly debited to the "Public Works Department" and partly under "Grants-in-aid."
Hostel buildings in Calcutta	.....	.....	.....	8,50,000	.....	8,70,000	
Dacca University and hostels (non-recurring)	.....	.....	.....	3,00,000	.....	3,00,000	
Ditto ditto (recurring) ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	45,000	
Lump provision for non-recurring expenditure	.....	.....	.....	7,45,000	.....	5,11,000	The charges for 1913-14 are chiefly adjusted under "Public Works Department" and partly under "Grants-in-aid"
Expenditure from the non-recurring grant of 75 lakhs	.....	.....	.....	24,80,000	.....	30,00,000	
Expenditure from the recurring grant ...	.....	.....	...	13,20,000	.....	25,20,000	
Further recurring expenditure sanctioned by the Government of India	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,50,000	This has been recently sanctioned by the Government of India.
Refunds	3,000	2,454	1,097	2,500	2,500	2,000	
				1,38,66,500			
Lump deduction for probable savings ...	.....	.....	.....	3,78,500	...	—5,00,000	
Total .	53,34,000	61,21,873	73,76,829	1,34,88,000	85,10,000	1,45,43,000	Revised based on the actuals of the first nine months.

Superintendence ...		87,698	71,388	77,000	66,000	81,000	Decrease in revised is for non appointment of an Indian Medical Service officer as Personal Assistant as well as for savings in the salary of the Inspector-General on leave. Budget provides for the salary of Indian Medical Service Personal Assistant.
District Medical establishment ..		4,16,581	4,32,112	4,42,000	4,32,000	4,46,000	Decrease in revised is for savings under "Salaries and Contingencies." Budget includes a lump provision for the revision of establishment of the Civil Surgeons' offices.
Reserve Medical Officers and Subordinates		19,190	9,600	15,000	12,000	15,000	
Bonus		1,660	9	...	.....	.....	
Total ...	4,95,000	5,25,129	5,13,109	5,34,000	5,00,000	5,42,000	
Hospitals and Dispensaries—							
Presidency Hospitals and Dispensaries—							
Medical College Hospital		3,34,259	3,64,393	3,29,000	3,69,000	3,62,000	Increase in revised is for teaching allowances to Resident Surgeons sanctioned by the Secretary of State and for additional charges for establishment, allowances and supplies and services. Budget includes larger provision for Medical Stores and European Stores.
General Hospital		2,14,773	2,13,527	2,50,000	2,44,000	2,52,000	Budget includes Rs. 2,000 for increase of staff allowances of Military Assistant Surgeons. Decrease in revised is under "Supplies and Services."
Campbell Hospital		1,24,401	1,25,706	1,35,000	1,37,000	1,43,000	Increase in revised is for increase of diet allowances of nurses and under "Supplies and Services." Budget includes larger provision for salaries for increase in the number of Sub-Assistant Surgeons and increased grant for allowances and Medical Stores.
Albert Victor Asylum for Lepers ...		33,278	37,707	37,000	38,000	37,000	
Mufassal Hospitals and Dispensaries ...		69,240	1,08,492	84,000	1,05,000	91,000	Increase in revised is under "Salaries and Contingencies." Budget provides for smaller recoveries from District Boards and Municipalities for pay of Assistant and Sub-Assistant Surgeons.
Grants to Hospitals and Dispensaries ...		2,34,456	2,12,209	1,18,000	2,74,000	1,56,000	Increase in revised due to a grant of Rs. 60,000 for Mymensingh Hospital, Rs. 8,000 to the General Hospital, Howrah, and grants to other hospitals. Budget includes provision for grant to Jubilee Sanitarium and Rs. 25,000 for the improvement of nursing arrangements in mufassal hospitals.
Medical charges in connection with the Inland Labour Transport Fund ...		1,733	1,279	1,500	1,000	1,300	
Bonus		5,223	—16	...	...	.....	
Total ...	9,80,000	10,47,413	10,93,207	9,54,500	11,68,000	10,42,300	
Sanitation and Vaccination	3,35,000	4,31,025	3,60,086	5,08,000	3,20,000	3,92,000	Decrease in revised is due to the lapse of provision for the purchase of quinine and anti-malarial measures. Budget provides Rs 50,000 for jungle-clearing.
Grants for medical purposes—							
Expenses during the prevalence of plague		13,323	13,844	4,360	14,000	14,000	
Contribution to Lady Minto's Nursing Association		3,554	.....	.....	.....	.....	This charge is shown in the Miscellaneous Budget.
Expenses during the prevalence of epidemics		3,362	1,239	4,000	2,000	2,000	

24.—Medical—concluded.

Heads.	Actuals. 1910-11.	Actuals. 1911-12.	Actuals. 1912-13.	1913-14. Sanctioned estimate.	1913-14. Revised estimate.	1914-15. Budget estimate.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Value of Medical Stores supplied to charitable institutions		795	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	
Bonus		25	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Exchange compensation allowance ..		.....	84	.....	.....	.....	
For rounding		.....	.....	—350	.....	.....	
Total grants for Medical purposes ...	27,000	21,049	16,177	9,000	17,000	17,000	
Medical Schools and Colleges—							
Medical Colleges		2,49,881	2,97,843	3,33,000	3,50,000	3,38,000	Increase in revised is for larger expenditure on serological tests. Larger provision has been made for the same purpose in the budget for 1914-15
Medical Schools		1,03,900	1,13,503	1,23,000	1,18,000	1,28,000	
Bonus		695	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Total ...	3,68,000	3,54,476	4,11,346	4,56,000	4,68,000	4,66,000	
Lunatic Asylums	1,57,000	1,60,678	1,65,754	1,72,000	1,74,000	1,76,000	Increase is under "Establishment."
Special Hospitals	10,000	10,040	10,601	11,000	11,000	11,000	
Chemical Examiner	52,000	50,185	58,851	67,000	41,000	57,000	Decrease in revised is due to reduction of analysing staff. Decrease in budget is for abolition of one post of Assistant Chemical Examiner, and non-provision for a probationer and smaller provision for house allowance.
Refunds	13,000	14,748	13,002	14,500	14,000	14,928	
Lump grant for non-recurring expenditure on sanitation	.....	.....	.....	6,75,000	1,25,000	18,82,772	The amounts formerly provided for under "Civil Works in charge of Civil Officers" have now been provided for here to show in one place the whole of the grant for the improvement of sanitation.
Ditto for recurring grant ...	.....	.....	.....	5,00,000	50,000	9,50,000	
Grant for Medical relief	.....	.....	.....	1,00,000	12,000	80,000	This is the balance of the Imperial grant of one lakh.
Lump grant for School of Tropical Medicine	.....	.....	.....	1,00,000	.....	1,50,000	Includes one lakh, the balance of the Imperial grant, and Rs. 50,000 for equipments.
Lump deduction for probable savings ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	—10,00,000	

Political Agents	10,000	14,648	11,854	14,900	15,500	15,600	
Entertainment of Envoys and Chiefs ...	1,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Durbar presents and allowances to Vakils, etc.	17,000	7,872	23,750	10,600	12,000	10,000	
Miscellaneous	3,000	102	3,372	3,500	2,500	3,400	
Total ...	31,000	22,622	38,976	29,000	30,000	29,000	Revised based on the actuals of the first nine months.

26.—Scientific and other Minor Departments—

Veterinary and stallion charges	2,05,000	2,02,035	1,70,807	1,89,000	1,74,500	1,80,000	Decrease in revised is under "Supplies and Services and Contingencies" of the Veterinary College, allowances of Veterinary Inspectors, and contingencies of Veterinary Hospitals.
Donations to Scientific Societies	14,000	14,950	15,200	11,600	11,600	11,600	
Agriculture	3,95,000	4,03,479	3,47,109	4,84,000	4,49,000	5,55,000	Decrease in revised is chiefly under Sericulture. Increase in budget is for the appointment of a Second Deputy Director of Agriculture, additional supervisors, provision for field men, Demonstrators and Apprentices, additional grant for travelling allowance and for additional expenditure on experimental farms.
Provincial Museum	1,000	.....	.....	1,000	...	.....	
Cinchona plantations	4,02,000	3,85,751	6,67,844	2,54,200	2,71,000	2,58,000	Increase in budget is for additional temporary establishment owing to the extension of the plantations.
Public exhibitions and fairs	1,000	379	2,622	.....	100	.....	
Botanical and other public gardens ...	1,89,000	1,74,598	1,77,519	2,06,000	1,66,000	1,93,000	Decrease in revised is for savings in the pay of the Superintendent, Royal Botanic Gardens, the permanent incumbent being on leave, and in the grants for supplies and services and contingencies. Budget provides Rs.20,000 for grant to the Zoological Garden, while the estimate for 1913-14 included Rs 30,000 on the same account.
Emigration	22,000	19,464	22,224	23,000	23,000	23,000	
Inspector of Factories	52,000	65,022	60,086	72,000	69,500	79,000	Decrease in revised is for savings in the provision for allowances to Civil Medical officers for inspecting factories. Budget includes provision for an additional Inspector
Census	2,000	1,634	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Gazetteer and Statistical Memoirs ...	1,000	3,135	3,726	14,000	4,000	10,000	Decrease in revised is for the delay in the preparation of the Gazetteer volumes.
Registration of railway traffic	12,000	11,167	9,933	8,000	8,000	8,360	
Ditto of river-borne traffic ...	6,000	10,412	5,653	3,600	3,000	6,550	Budget includes provision for registration of steamer-borne trade traffic at Bhairab Bazar in Mymensingh and for the registration of traffic passing over inland wharves.
Provincial statistics	20,000	25,216	30,150	26,400	28,000	23,300	
Preservation and translation of ancient manuscripts	7,000	5,850	7,625	9,000	9,000	9,000	
Examinations	1,000	441	422	500	500	700	

28.—Scientific and other Minor Departments—concluded.

Heads.	Actuals.			1913-14.		1914-15.	Remarks.
	1910-11.	1911-12.	1912-13	Sanctioned estimate.	Revised estimate.	Budget estimate.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Inspector of Mines	.....	265	125	300	200	200	
Bacteriology	10,000	10,272	13,029	11,500	12,500	13,000	
Registrar of Co-operative Credit Societies ..	57,000	80,391	61,051	73,000	77,000	93,000	Budget provides for additional establishment for the extension of the department.
Inland Labour Transport Fund ...	29,000	29,030	22,687	22,000	23,000	27,000	Budget includes provision for the construction of a bungalow for the Emigration Officer at Goalundo.
Miscellaneous (Smoke Nuisance and Fishery charges)	33,000	37,331	45,415	1,23,000	1,05,000	86,000	Budget for 1913-14 included provision for a new launch for the Fishery Department.
Imperial Institute	.. ...	8	.....	.....	100	.....	
Refunds	2,000	108	726	900	1,000	1,200	
Lump provision for Agriculture and allied objects	.....	...	....	1,80,000	1,06,000	1,52,000	Revised includes Rs. 20,000 for the Cinchona Department, Rs. 85,000 for the Rangpur Dairy Farm and Rs. 1,000 for grant to Tea Association. Budget provides for regrant of saving of Rs. 52,000 from Imperial grant and Provincial grant of one lakh for the improvement of the Agricultural Department.
For rounding	....	.....	.....	.....	— ...	+90	
Total ..	14,61,000	14,80,938	16,63,953	17,13,000	15,32,000	17,30,000	Revised based on the actuals of the first nine months.

29.—Superannuation—

Covenanted Civil Service pensions ...	25,78,000	43,750	45,000	44,000	45,000	45,000	
Superannuation and retired allowances ...		27,13,887	28,54,278	29,50,000	29,64,000	30,83,000	Budget provides for the normal growth of expenditure.
Compassionate allowances	10,000	2,683	2,647	5,000	4,000	4,000	Based on actuals.
Gratuities	25,000	16,380	14,932	14,000	12,000	15,000	
Ports and Pilotage pensions	9,000	8,603	8,493	8,500	8,500	8,500	
Refunds	..	334	338	500	500	500	
Commuted value of pensions	.....	..	...	.....	75,000	75,000	A new head opened as desired by the Comptroller-General.

Forms Department at the Presidency ...	50,000	53,291	52,002	59,000	57,000	71,000	Budget includes Rs. 10,000 for allowances to establishment owing to the introduction of jail hours.
Stationery purchased in the country ...	26,000	24,869	23,130	25,000	24,000	25,000	
Government presses	6,44,000	6,74,169	6,24,717	6,24,000	6,40,000	6,84,000	Budget includes larger provision for plant of the Secretariat Press and provision for the Branch Press at Koilaghat.
Printing at private presses	4,000	5,129	1,222	4,000	2,000	2,000	
Stationery supplied from Central Stores ...	9,30,000	8,19,036	6,32,102	6,46,000	8,13,000	6,60,000	Revised includes additional grants of Rs. 82,000 for Dacca Jail Press and Rs. 86,000 for Forms Department.
Refunds	.. ...	2,428	1,256	2,000	3,000	2,000	
Total ...	16,54,000	15,79,021	13,34,429	13,60,000	15,39,000	14,44,000	Revised based on the actuals of the first nine months.

12.—Miscellaneous—

Miscellaneous charges for the treatment of patients of the Pasteur Institute ...	1,000	1,492	1,296	1,500	1,000	1,000	Based on actuals.
Travelling allowances to officers attending examinations	4,000	3,774	7,150	3,500	5,000	4,000	
Reward for proficiency in Oriental languages, and allowance to the Language Examination Committee	8,000	7,200	4,017	9,000	4,000	6,000	
Cost of books and publications	16,000	47,503	8,112	3,000	1,000	1,000	The actuals of 1912-13 included Rs. 3,000 paid to "Biswavarta" and Rs. 5,000 for purchase of copyright of Mr. Garett's "Sale Law."
Donations for charitable purposes ...	1,57,000	1,83,618	2,30,273	1,60,000	2,27,000	1,70,000	Revised includes building grants of Rs. 26,450 to the Prisoners' Aid Society, Rs. 3,000 to Calcutta Orphanage and Rs. 11,666 for Anath Bhander.
Charges on account of European vagrants ..	5,000	4,603	7,960	7,000	4,000	6,000	
Rewards for destruction of wild animals ...	9,000	16,803	13,953	14,000	20,000	19,000	Revised and budget raised with reference to increasing actuals.
Petty establishments	48,000	50,291	37,695	43,500	44,000	23,000	The charges of the Controller of Office System have been transferred to High Court.
Special Commissions of Enquiry ...	40,000	484	52,274	19,000	1,85,000	50,000	Revised includes Rs. 1,00,000 for the District Administration Committee and Rs. 77,000 for the Port Facilities Committee. Budget includes Rs. 20,000 for the former and Rs. 3,000 for the latter and Rs. 27,000 for other charges.
Irrecoverable temporary loans written off ...	7,000	4	2,323	1,000	4,000	4,000	
Rent rates and taxes	38,000	54,106	45,496	54,000	42,000	45,000	Decrease due to the payment of owner's share of taxes by the Public Works Department.
Contributions	2,33,000	1,75,287	3,396	4,000	10,000	8,800	Budget includes provision for guarantee of new telegraph offices to be opened for Police, and other purposes.

32.—Miscellaneous—concluded.

Heads.	Actuals.			1913-14.		1914-15.	Remarks.
	1910-11.	1911-12.	1912-13.	Sanctioned estimate.	Revised estimate.	Budget estimate.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Miscellaneous and unforeseen charges ...	3,000	7,245	4,804	2,62,000	1,58,000	3,06,000	Revised includes Rs. 1,50,000 for expenditure on gratuitous relief in flooded areas, Rs. 4,000 for King's portrait and Rs. 4,000 for other charges. The decrease as compared with budget is due to the adjustment under proper heads of the expenditure from petty grants by His Excellency and the reserve provision for unforeseen charges. The budget for 1914-15 includes Rs. 1,00,000 for petty grants by His Excellency, Rs. 1,50,000 for reserve, Rs. 50,000 for expenditure on gratuitous relief, and Rs. 6,000 for other charges.
Miscellaneous refunds	8,000	8,261	2,732	8,500	8,000	8,000	
Annual stipend to holders of literary titles ...	.....	.....	4,092	3,000	3,000	3,000	
Lump provision for grain compensation allowance for all departments	.....	.....	.....	3,60,000	.....	4,00,000	The charges for 1913-14 have been distributed to the respective departments. Budget is intended to provide for the increase of pay of menials of all departments when the grain allowance will cease.
Charges for search of hidden treasure ...	.....	.....	37	.....	.....	.....	
Remission for certain recoveries from Local Bodies	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	26,000	This has just been sanctioned by the Government of India.
For rounding ...	.....	.....	...	.....	.....	+200	
Total ...	5,77,000	5,60,371	4,25,610	9,53,000	7,16,000	10,81,000	Revised based on the actuals of the first nine months.

42.—Irrigation—Major Works (Working Expenses)—

Midnapore Canal		2,43,964	2,06,943	1,87,000	1,97,000	2,10,000	Budget includes provisions for special repairs to the distributaries.
Hijili Tidal Canals		33,122	28,774	53,000	1,09,000	86,000	Both revised and budget include provision for charges for silt-clearance.
Total ...	2,65,000	2,77,086	2,35,717	2,40,000	3,06,000	2,96,000	
Provincial share ...	2,65,000	1,38,543	1,17,858	1,20,000	1,53,000	1,48,000	

43.—Irrigation—Major Works (Interest on Debt)—

Interest	2,39,000	2,41,201	2,51,326	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

IN CHARGE OF THE CIVIL DEPARTMENT.							
Embankments under the contract system—							
Establishments		2,375	1,882	2,000	2,000	2,000	
Contingencies		31	48	500	500	5,500	Budget includes Rs. 5,000 for grant-in-aid for bandalling the river Ganges near Rampur Boalia.
Maintenance charges of the Howrah and Rajapur drainage projects ...		1,426	.....	...	.....	.....	
Refunds		6	.....	500	500	500	
Bonus		71	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Total in charge of the Civil Department	3,000	3,909	1,930	3,000	3,000	8,000	
Provincial share	3,000	1,954	965	1,000	1,000	4,000	
IN CHARGE OF THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.							
IRRIGATION AND NAVIGATION WORKS.							
Works for which Capital and Revenue Accounts are kept.							
CAPITAL.							
Works in progress.							
Midnapore Canal		(−)3,942	1,198	2,400	1,200	2,400	
Hijili Tidal Canal		.....	...	.....	.....	.....	
Hooghly Bidyadhari Canal		.....	12,741	.....	21,759	.....	
Calcutta and Eastern Canals		(−)96,978	−82,320	−77,600	−80,450	−55,800	
Madaripur Bhil scheme		4,59,082	95,489	2,25,400	2,93,000	34,500	
Utterbhag lock		14,798	73,852	26,800	26,300	.....	
Total Capital ...		3,72,960	1,00,960	1,77,000	2,61,809	−18,900	
REVENUE.							
Orissa Coast Canal		19,016	18,957	26,000	26,770	17,400	
Calcutta and Eastern Canals		3,01,057	4,39,561	5,88,000	4,38,050	6,12,000	
Madaripur Bhil scheme		7,210	92,917	63,000	93,800	60,500	
Total Revenue ...		3,27,283	5,51,435	6,77,000	5,58,620	6,89,900	
Total Works for which Capital and Revenue accounts are kept ..		7,00,243	6,52,395	8,54,000	8,20,429	6,71,000	

43.—*Minor Works and Navigation*—concluded.

Heads.	Actuals.			1913-14.		1914-15.	Remarks.
	1910-11.	1911-12.	1912-13.	Sanctioned estimate.	Revised estimate.	Budget estimate.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Works for which only Revenue Accounts are kept.							
Works in progress.							
Nadia Rivers		80,226	1,38,461	1,23,500	1,24,400	1,29,000	
Gaighatta and Buxi *khals*		4,680	8,637	500	500	600	
Total Works for which only Revenue Accounts are kept		84,906	1,47,098	1,24,000	1,24,900	1,29,600	
Works for which neither Capital nor Revenue Accounts are kept.							
Works in progress.							
Eden Canal		28,341	20,684	38,000	58,500	89,000	Budget includes Rs. 35,000 for the construction of a new sluice below Jujuti.
Improvement of navigable channels—Ganges river		22,543	54,332	35,000	45,000	45,000	
Dredging the Bhagirathi entrance ...							
Ditto Gorai entrance		60,530		7,000	15,121	20,000	
Other works							
Dredging the Dhaleswari and Buriganga rivers							
Bandalling and putting on spurs on the Dhaleswari and Buriganga rivers ...		.....	48,691	88,000	79,000	80,000	
Grant-in-aid for bandalling the Ganges near Rampur Boalia							
Improving the channel of the Karnafuli ...							
Repairs							
Dredging the Puttimari channel ...		.....	.....	.....	.....	86,400	
Taking tidal observations and making surveys in connection with the proposed canalisation of the Bidyadhari and Peali rivers		.....	.....	.....	13,262	.....	
Total Works for which neither Capital							

Works for which only Revenue Accounts are kept and for which neither Capital nor Revenue Accounts are kept.						
WORKS IN PROGRESS.						
Government embankments						
Midnapore takavi embankments under contract						
Rajapur and Howrah drainage						
Magra Hât drainage project						
Total Agricultural ...	.....	6,70,544	6,13,107	6,96,000	8,36,639	10,94,000
Reserve	.....	.....	.....	24,000	1,149	23,000
Total in charge of the Public Works Department	17,40,000	15,67,107	15,36,307	18,66,000	19,94,000	22,38,000
Provincial share	17,40,000	7,83,553	7,68,153	9,33,000	9,97,000	11,19,000

45.—Civil Works—

IN CHARGE OF THE CIVIL DEPARTMENT.						
Provision for sub-overseers in each subdivision in Bengal to report on the real condition of rural water-supply ..		.....	.....	38,000	27,000	14,000
Ferry charges		2,485	2,584	5,827	5,578	7,838
,, refunds		7,517	9,505	12,000	10,300	12,000
Staging bungalows		4,223	5,660	6,996	4,200	3,947
Encamping grounds		17	59	500	139	776
Arboriculture		13,764	21,146	.. ...	. .	.....
Cemetery establishment		.....	.....	.....	4,800	4,613
Contributions in aid of excluded local funds and municipalities		8,28,989	4,36,575	14,95,320	9,00,466	1,74,813
Other items		14,461	1,74,290	4,650	21,183	5,150
Grant to the Calcutta Improvement Trust ...		11,50,000	11,50,000	11,50,000	11,50,000	11,50,000
Contribution to district funds and district road funds		10,06,283	8,80,565	3,07,934	7,06,324	7,03,700
Deduct—Probable savings ...		.....		—1,227		+
Total in charge of the Civil Department ...	16,74,000	30,27,729	26,80,384	30,20,000	28,30,000	20,77,000

45.—Civil Works—concluded.

Heads.	Actuals.			1913-14.		1914-15.	Remarks.
	1910-11.	1911-12.	1912-13.	Sanctioned estimate.	Revised estimate.	Budget estimate.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
In charge of the Public Works Department.							
Original Works.							
Civil Buildings { In progress				14,79,900	43,09,000	15,69,000	
Civil Buildings { Not commenced ...				24,08,017		28,92,000	
Communications. { In progress				1,06,900	3,89,000	1,46,000	
Communications. { Not commenced ...				3,29,900		9,38,000	
Miscellaneous Public Improvements. { In progress				65,300	83,000	14,000	
Miscellaneous Public Improvements. { Not commenced ...				3,300		.....	
Total ...				43,93,317	47,81,000	55,59,000	Larger grants made for new works.
Repairs.							
Civil Buildings				10,04,290	10,18,000	12,73,000	
Communications				7,79,000	8,27,000	8,00,000	
Miscellaneous Public Improvements ...				1,09,310	1,12,000	1,10,000	
Total ...				18,92,600	19,57,000	21,83,000	
Establishment				11,07,083	10,20,000	11,47,000	Budget includes salary of the Irrigation Secretary.
Tools and Plant				37,000	39,000	70,000	
Stock and Suspense				.....	3,000	.....	
Total in charge of Public Works Department	63,65,000	61,52,000	63,21,755	74,30,000	78,00,000	89,59,000	

TAKE DURING 1914-15.

Obligatory schemes which have been provided for in the Budget for 1914-15.

Major Budget head and sub-head under which provision has been made.	Nature of scheme.	Estimate of ultimate maximum cost.			Estimate of expenditure in 1914-15.			Remarks.
		Non-recurring.	Recurring.	Total.	Non-recurring.	Recurring.	Total.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
3.—Land Revenue.		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Charges of District Administration.	Appointment of an Additional District Magistrate for 24-Parganas.	.....	27,600	27,600	.....	27,600	27,600	3rd grade Magistrate ... ... 1,500 Average pay of a Joint-Magistrate 800 2,300×12 A reference has been made to the Government of India for sanction to the proposal.
Ditto ...	Purchase of iron-safes for treasuries and sub-treasuries.	10,000	.....	10,000	10,000	.....	10,000	The Inspector-General of Police in one of his inspection notes brought to notice that in certain treasuries and sub-treasuries notes are kept in wooden boxes which are not safe. Iron-safes should be supplied to these treasuries.
Ditto ...	Steam-launch for the Collector of Faridpur.	40,000	.....	40,000	40,000	.....	40,000	
	Total Land Revenue ...	50,000	27,600	77,600	50,000	27,600	77,600	
7.—Excise ...	House accommodation for Excise Inspectors, Sub-Inspectors, petty officers and peons.	2,15,725	20,000	2,35,725	50,000	.....	50,000	The ultimate cost is as below :— Non-recurring. Rs. Burdwan Division ... 53,700 Presidency „ ... 41,900 Dacca „ ... 37,750 Chittagong „ ... 22,725 Rajshahi „ ... 59,650 Total ... 2,15,725 It is proposed to provide for a non-recurring expenditure of Rs. 50,000 in 1914-15.

›ad under which ion has been	Nature of scheme.	[illegible]			[illegible]			REMARKS.
		Non-recurring.	Recurring.	Total.	Non-recurring.	Recurring.	Total.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Excise—concld. ...	Construction of launches and boats.	1,04,400	12,400	1,16,800	50,000	.....	50,000	This is required for more efficient prevention of Excise offences than is possible at present. During 1914-15 the Excise Commissioner requires the following :— Rs. 1 launch ... 45,000 } for the districts of Khulna, Dacca, Mymensingh, Faridpur, Bakarganj, Chittagong and Hooghly. 26 boats and 22 dinghies ... 14,400 } It is proposed to provide a lump sum of Rs. 50,000.
	Total Excise ...	3,20,125	32,400	3,52,525	1,00,000	.....	1,00,000	
t.—Forests.								
›servancy and Works.	Reconstruction of Divisional bungalow at Kalimpong, Tista Division.	8,000	.....	8,000	8,000	.....	8,000	The bungalow was constructed so far back as 1879, and its reconstruction is necessary.
Ditto ...	Purchase of 2 elephants for Chittagong Hill Tracts Division.	6,000	.....	6,000	6,000	.....	6,000	This was sanctioned in 1912-13, but funds lapsed as no elephants were available for purchase in that year.
Ditto ...	Construction of 4 accommodation boats and 2 water boats for Sundarbans Division.	11,600	.....	11,600	11,600	.....	11,600	This is required to replace boats which are worn out and which cannot be economically repaired. Rs. 4 accommodation boats ... ... 8,000 2 water-boats 3,600
Ditto ...	New boilers for the launches of the Sundarbans Division.	10,500	.....	10,500	10,500	.....	10,500	New boilers for— S.L. *Hawk* ... ... 6,600 *Helen Green* 3,900

	Buxa Division.							
	Total Forests ...	44,100	.....	44,100	44,100	.....	44,100	
12.—Registration.								
District charges, Calcutta	Creation of a post of Registrar of Joint-Stock Companies.	.....	21,852	21,852	.....	17,736	17,736	The proposal has already been submitted to the Government of India for sanction.
District charges—District Sub-Registrars and Sub-Registrars.	Increase of leave reserve	.....	10,000	10,000	.....	10,000	10,000	The present reserve calculated at 8 per cent. on the total cadre is insufficient, and it is proposed to raise it to 12 per cent.
Ditto ...	Increase of salaries of District Sub-Registrars.	.....	8,100	8,100	.....	8,100	8,100	The difference between the rate of salary of a District Sub-Registrar of grade IV and that of a Sub-Registrar of grade I is only Rs. 25. Considering the status and responsibility of an officer of the rank of District Sub-Registrar, there should be a larger difference. It is proposed that the pay of a District Sub-Registrar of grade IV should be Rs. 200 instead of Rs. 175; the rates of pay in the first, second and third grades of District Sub-Registrars should be increased also by Rs. 25.
	Total Registration ...	.....	39,952	39,952	.....	35,836	35,836	
19A.—Law and Justice—Courts of Law.								
High Court	One Additional Judge and his establishment.	.....	53,148	53,148	.....	53,148	53,148	Additional Judge ... ... Rs. 48,000 Establishment ... 5,148

ead under which sion has been	Nature of scheme.	MAXIMUM COST.			IN 1914-15.			REMARKS.
		Non-recurring.	Recurring.	Total.	Non-recurring.	Recurring.	Total.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Law and Justice— *s of Law*—contd.		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
ourt ...	Entertainment of three shorthand-writers and one shorthand typist for the Original Side of the High Court.	.....	8,700	8,700	.....	4,500	4,500	The proposal has been sanctioned by the Government of India— Rs. 3 shorthand-writers ... 150—5—200 each. 1 shorthand typist ... 75—5—125 Provision has been made for 3 only in the budget for 1914-15. Rs. 2 head-clerks (80) ... ... 160 2 nazirs and cashiers (40) ... 80 4 Honorary Magistrates' Bench clerks (30) ... ... 120 2 comparing clerks (30) ... 60 4 orderlies (8) ... ... 32 2 durwans (8) ... ... 16 2 duftries (8) ... ... 16 Grant of an increase of Rs. 10 to each of the 2 office clerks ... 20 Rs. Total ... 504×12=6,048
ncy Magistrates, tta Police Court.	Entertainment of additional establishment for the new Police Courts in the northern and southern parts of the town.	.....	6,048	6,048	.....	6,048	6,048	
Ditto ...	Establishment of a Juvenile Court and House of detention for juvenile offenders in Calcutta.	8,000	9,400	17,400	8,000	9,400	17,400	
ıcy Court of Small s.	Reorganization of the office of the Small Cause Court, Calcutta.	.....	10,075	10,075	.....	10,075	10,075	To provide for the increase of pay of the Clerk of the Court from Rs. 400—20—500 to Rs. 500—40—700, the new appointment of an Assistant Clerk of the Court and other small increases in the office establishment at a

ing staff of Munsifs. The present allotted number of Subordinate Judges in Bengal is 6 in the first grade, 12 in the second grade and 24 in the third grade. The following additions to the cadre have been sanctioned :—

	Number.	Cost.
		Rs.
1st grade on Rs. 1,000 ...	1	1,000
2nd " " 800 ...	2	1,600
3rd " " 600 ...	3	1,800
		4,400×12 =52,800

The sanctioned strength of Munsifs in Bengal is 245. The present and the sanctioned grading of Munsifs is as shown below :—

	Present number	Sanctioned number	Present cost.	Sanctioned cost.
			Rs.	Rs.
Special grade on Rs. 500	12	25	6,000	12,500
1st grade on Rs. 400 ...	61	49	24,400	19,600
2nd grade on Rs. 300 ...	70	66	21,000	19,800
3rd grade on Rs. 250 ...	66	70	16,500	17,500
4th grade on Rs. 200 ...	36	35	7,200	7,000
	245	245	75,100	76,400

The increase of cost on account of the regrading of Munsifs is therefore Rs. 76,400—75,100 = 1,300×12= Rs. 15,600.

The total cost involved in the reorganization of the Provincial Judicial Service and the regrading of Munsifs is Rs. 52,800+15,600=Rs. 68,400.

In the budget for 1913-14 a provision of Rs. 50,000 was made for the regrading of Munsifs. The sanction of the Secretary of State has just been received.

Budget head and ead under which ion has been	Nature of scheme.	ESTIMATE OF ULTIMATE MAXIMUM COST.			ESTIMATE OF EXPENDITURE IN 1914-15.			REMARKS.
		Nor recurring.	Recurring.	Total.	Non-recurring.	Recurring.	Total.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
aw and Justice—s of Law—concld.		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
d Sessions Courts	Increase of the pay of the last grade of Munsifs from Rs. 200 to Rs. 250.	.....	21,000	21,000	.....	21,000	21,000	After the regrading referred to in the preceding item the value of 35 appointments on Rs. 200 will have to be raised to Rs. 250.
l Courts ...	Chaukidari panchayat—Appointment of additional 40 Sub-Deputy Collectors in connection with chaukidari circle system.	.....	88,800	88,800	.....	40,000	40,000	1st grade, 2 on Rs. 250 ... ... Rs. 500 2nd „ 6 „ 200 ... ... 1,200 3rd „ 12 „ 175 ... ... 2,100 4th „ 12 „ 150 ... ... 1,800 5th „ 8 „ 100 ... ... 800 6,400×12 =76,800 Allowance ... ... 12,000 In the budget for 1913-14 a provision of Rs. 15,000 was made for 20 officers for 4 months, but the Secretary of State has now sanctioned the addition of 40 posts. Some appointments will be made this year and more in next year. A provision of Rs. 40,000 will be necessary in 1914-15.
	Total Law and Justice—Courts of Law ...	8,000	2,65,571	2,73,571	8,000	2,12,571	2,20,571	
Law and Justice—Jails.								
shment—Warder tablishment.	Improvement in the Jail Warders' service.	.....	64,252	64,252	.....	40,000	40,000	It is proposed to give better rates of pay to the warders, to increase the strength of the establishment, and to do away with local allowances, recruit warders, orderlies and reserve warders, etc. The existing and proposed rates of different grades are shown below:—

Present.	Proposed.
Rs	Rs

								1st grade Head Warder { 25 to 30, 30 to 35, 25 } 32 & 30 2nd ditto ... { 16 to 22, 20 } 24 3rd ditto ... { 13 to 16, 16 } 18 1st grade Warders ... 10 2nd ditto ... 9 3rd ditto ... 8 Warders ... ... 10 to 13 } 12 to 15 One Female Warder ... 15 Female Warder ... 8 to 10-8 Ditto ... 10-1-13 { Matron, 18, 14, 12 to 14, 12
Jail manufactures ...	Machinery for the Dacca Central Jail.	10,000	.....	10,000	10,000	.....	10,000	This is a proposal to fully equip the Dacca Jail for the production of jail manufactures like the Bhagalpur Jail, which is no longer under the control of this Government. This is expected to increase the receipts from jail manufactures.
	Total Law and Justice—Jails	10,000	64,252	74,252	10,000	40,000	50,000	
20.—Police.								
Presidency Police—Superintendence ...	Conveyance allowance of Deputy Commissioner of Police.	.....	5,625	5,625	.....	5,625	5,625	The proposal has been sanctioned by the Government of India. They have ruled that if a 4-seated car is kept the allowance will be Rs. 150 per mensem, and for a 2-seated car Rs. 100 per mensem. The grant is also subject to the condition that a motor-car of not less than the seating capacity mentioned is actually maintained and used by officers in the course of their duties. The officers who keep horses in preference to a motor-car will be entitled to the horse allowance of Rs. 75, but not both allowances concurrently. Rs. Government share ... ... 5,625 Port Commissioners' share... ... 675 Total ... 6,300

ead under which sion has been	Nature of scheme.	Non-recurring.	Recurring.	Total.	Non-recurring.	Recurring.	Total.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
—*Police*—contd.		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
ncy Police—								
atta Police ...	Additional Police force for Criminal Investigation Department and Special Branch, Calcutta.	.....	12,515	12,515	.....	12,258	12,258	Rs. Pay and allowance of three Sub-Inspectors and 13 Constables and local allowances of four Head-constables ... 9,144 House-rent ... ... 2,460 Contingencies ... ... 654 Total ... 12,258 The ultimate cost will increase with the increase of pay of Constables. The scheme was sanctioned with effect from 1st April 1913.
Ditto ...	Additional Police staff in connection with the scheme for decentralization of the Police Court at Lall Bazar.	.....	13,115	13,115	.....	12,680	12,680	Rs. Pay of one Inspector, two Sub-Inspectors and 22 Constables... 9,240 rising to Rs. 9,636. Conveyance allowance ... 780 Clothing ... ... 236 House rent ... ... 1,500 Contingencies ... ... 924 rising to Rs. 963. Total ... 12,680
Ditto ...	Calcutta Police Training School.	4,878	28,577	33,455	4,878	28,577	33,455	Recurring— Rs. Pay of 2 Inspectors, 4 Sub-Inspectors, 22 Head constables and two buglers 18,888 Allowances ... ... 2,952 Ministerial and menial establishment 1,164 Contingencies ... ... 1,889 House-rent ... ... 3,360 Clothing ... ... 324 Non-recurring— Iron cots 3,250

								House-rent ... ... 840 Contingencies 360
Ditto	...	Additional Police force to guard the Government Dockyard, Kidderpore.	508	6,132	6,640	508	5,492	6,000	Recurring— Pay and allowances of 1 Sub-Inspector, 2 Head-constables and 14 constables ... ... 4,404 Clothing ... ... 162 Contingencies ... ... 366 House-rent ... ... 1,200 Non-recurring— Initial charge on account of clothing ... 508 It has been proposed to make a lump provision of Rs. 6,000 in 1914-15.
River Police	...	Additional Police staff to regulate traffic at the landing stages of the Port Commissioners' ferry service.	.....	10,149	10,149	.....	9,350	9,350	2 Sergeants (100—$\frac{5}{2}$—125). 5 Head-constables, 1 (25), 2 (20), 2 (17-8). 20 Constables (10—13). Rs. Clothing ... ... 470 Mess allowance ... ... 480 House-rent ... ... 1,800 Contingencies 67
		Deduct debitable to Port Commissioners.	.....	6,766	6,766	.....	6,233	6,233	The cost is debitable to the Port Commissioners and Government in the proportion of 3 to 1. The scheme has already been sanctioned by Government in July 1913.
			.....	3,383	3,383	.....	3,117	3,117	
Ditto	...	Provision for a steam-cutter and crew.	10,000	2,805	12,805	10,000	2,805	12,805	This is required for river traffic, and the Port Commissioners have agreed to this.
		Deduct debitable to Port Commissioners.	6,667	1,870	8,537	6,667	1,870	8,537	Rs. Rs. Cost of a steam-cutter ... ... 10,000 Pay of crew ... ... 1,065 Clothing ... ... 40 Contingencies 1,700 2,805
			3,333	935	4,268	3,333	935	4,268	The charge will be divided between the Port Commissioners and Government in the proportion of 3 to 1.

under which has been	Nature of scheme.	MAXIMUM COST.			IN 1914-15.			REMARKS.
		Non-recurring.	Recurring.	Total.	Non-recurring.	Recurring.	Total.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
lice—contd.		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
dence ...	Appointment of a fourth Range Deputy Inspector-General of Police.	31,000	24,600	55,600	1,000	24,600	25,600	At present there are three Range Deputy Inspectors-General—one for the eleven districts of the Presidency and Burdwan Divisions, one for the seven districts of the Dacca and Chittagong Divisions, and one for the eight districts of the Rajshahi Division. Experience has shown that the Presidency Range is too heavy and the Dacca Range requires thorough supervision, and it is proposed to appoint a 4th Range Deputy Inspector-General to give relief to these ranges. Recurring— Salary of Deputy Inspector-General ... Rs. 1,500 Establishment and contingencies ... 550 Non-recurring— Construction of house for the Deputy Inspector-General ... ... 30,000 Office furniture, etc. ... ... 1,000 It is proposed to provide only for the full recurring expenditure during 1914-15, and nothing for construction of the house.
tto ...	Increase of office establishment of the Inspector-General of Police.	.....	6,000	6,000	.....	6,000	6,000	The Inspector-General has proposed to increase the establishment by the following staff to cope with the increased work :— Rs. 1 clerk ... ... 200 1 „ ... ... 150 1 „ ... ... 125 1 „ ... ... 100 1 „ ... ... 60 1 shorthand typist ... ... 100—125

Department.									
		Intelligence Branch.							
District Police	...	Strengthening of armed police detachments in subdivisions of Western Bengal districts.	4,230	15,990	20,220	4,230	15,990	20,220	The Government of India generally approved the scheme for strengthening the armed reserve in certain district head-quarters and for posting detachments in certain important subdivisions. The provision now made represents the cost of giving effect to this scheme with certain modifications which further consideration has shown to be necessary. It is proposed to replace Sergeants by Sub-Inspectors in some districts.
Ditto	...	Strengthening of armed police reserve.	3,080	10,854	13,934	3,080	10,854	13,934	The scheme for the reorganization of the subordinate police in Eastern Bengal does not provide for increase of armed reserve in the districts of Malda, Bogra and Noakhali, nor for a detachment at Serajganj in Pabna.
Ditto	...	Establishment of 15 armed posts in Madaripur.	3,990	12,168	16,158	.....	12,168	12,168	Monthly. Rs. Pay of Head-constables ... ... 225; Deputation allowance ... ... 166; Lighting charges for 15 posts ... 23; Hire of boats ... ... 600. The non-recurring expenditure will be incurred in 1913-14.
Ditto	...	Increase of pay of Sergeants and grant of local allowance.	.....	9,350	9,350	.....	9,000	9,000	It is proposed to raise the pay of 38 Sergeants from Rs. 90—120 to Rs. 100—125, and to grant local allowance to certain Sergeants at the rates of Rs. 15, 20 and 25 who are stationed at Dacca, Narainganj, Chittagong, Darjeeling, etc.
Ditto	...	Armed posts in Dacca Division.	.....	27,720	27,720	.....	27,720	27,720	
Ditto	...	Increase of cadre of Deputy Superintendents.	.....	17,100	17,100	.....	17,100	17,100	It is proposed to add eight new appointments— Rs. One 1st grade ... ... 500; Two 2nd " at Rs. 400 each ... 800; Two 3rd " " 300 " ... 600; Three 4th " " 250 " ... 750; Allowance " 25 ... ... 200. The excellent result obtained by posting gazetted Police officers in subdivisions is already recognised, and it is proposed to make a provision for the appointment of four Deputy Superintendents in the budget for 1914-15.

under which has been	Nature of scheme.	Maximum cost.			In 1914-15.			REMARKS.
		Non-recurring.	Recurring.	Total.	Non-recurring.	Recurring.	Total.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
ice—concld.		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
ice ...	Strengthening of head-quarters treasury guards.	800	5,786	6,586	800	5,586	6,386	Captain Macpherson of the Dacca Military Police, who was deputed to examine the present arrangement of guarding the several treasuries of the province, has recommended an extra force of 15 head-constables and 25 constables for the purpose.
...	Reorganization of the Military Police establishment.	36,948	52,249	89,197	26,948	52,249	79,197	This is awaiting the sanction of the Secretary of State.
...	Establishment of new police-stations in the Asansol subdivision of Burdwan district.	2,360	21,379	23,739	2,064	21,080	23,144	It has become necessary to increase the number of police-stations in Asansol subdivision owing to the abnormal number of burglaries and dacoities there. The provision made does not, however, include the cost of buildings.
...	Raising of the conveyance allowance of subordinate Police officers.	.....	42,900	42,900	.....	42,900	42,900	
...	Supply of mosquito nets to Head-constables and Constables.	.....	17,600	17,600	.....	17,600	17,600	1,527 men were provided with nets in 1912-13; 16,589 curtains at Rs. 3-3 each are required for the rest.
...	Supply of cots to Head-constables and Constables living in barracks.	10,000	.....	10,000	10,000	.....	10,000	The Inspector-General of Police proposed Rs. 33,000 for 1914-15, but it has been decided to reduce it to Rs. 10,000.
...	Station boat scheme ...	6,122	6,756	12,878	6,122	6,756	12,878	This scheme is being gradually introduced. In the budget for 1913-14, Rs. 45,000 was provided, and effect has been given in the districts of Dacca, Faridpur, Mymensingh and Tipperah. It is now proposed to extend the scheme to Bakarganj, Pabna,

Police for the districts of the 24-Parganas and Midnapore involves the addition of two posts of Superintendents, one of Assistant Superintendent and one of Deputy Superintendent—

(*a*) As regards Superintendents, the two posts have been proposed to be added to the third and fourth grades on Rs. 900 and Rs. 800, or the extra cost will amount to Rs. 1,700 per month.

(*b*) As regards the Assistant Superintendent, the proposal is that, with the addition of one post, the appointments should be regraded as follows :—

	Existing number.	Proposed number.	Existing cost.	Proposed cost.
			Rs.	Rs.
First grade on Rs. 500.	17	18	8,500	9,000
Second grade on Rs. 400.	17	18	6,800	7,200
Third grade on Rs. 300.	12	11	3,600	3,300
Total ...	46	47	18,900	19,500

The increase of cost per mensem on this account comes to Rs. 600.

(*c*) In regard to Deputy Superintendents, it is proposed to add the extra appointment to the fourth grade on Rs. 250.

(*d*) Besides the above there is a proposal for the grant of house-rent allowance, at the rate of Rs. 200 a month, to the Additional Superintendent at Alipore.

(*e*) Added to the above is the cost on account of the proposal made in the letter from this Government, No. 3518 A.—D., dated the 23rd September 1912, for the grant of a fixed conveyance allowance of Rs. 50 a month for the Deputy or Assistant Superintendent of Police in charge of the Dacca Town Police.

ler which as been	Nature of scheme.	Non-recurring.	Recurring.	Total.	Non-recurring.	Recurring.	Total.	REMARKS.
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
-contd.		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
								The total cost involved in the proposal thus comes to— Rs. (a) ... ... 1,700 (b) ... ... 600 (c) ... ... 250 (d) ... ... 200 (e) ... ... 50 2,800×12 =33,600 In the budget for 1913-14 Rs. 5,700 was provided for the additional Superintendents for three months of the year. A reference has been made to the Government of India for sanction to the proposal.
..	Reorganization of the Subordinate Police in Eastern Bengal.	3,13,868	98,317	4,12,215	3,13,385	91,470	4,04,855	The whole scheme has been sanctioned by the Secretary of State, and effect is being given gradually. In the current year's budget there is a provision of Rs. 1,17,014 recurring and of Rs. 1,75,000 non-recurring.
...	Regrading of Sub-Inspectors and Head-constables in Eastern Bengal districts.	.....	37,800	37,800	.....	37,800	37,800	Sub-Inspectors— Addition of 8 appointments to 1st grade. " " 40 " " 2nd " " " 60 " " 3rd " Corresponding reduction in the 5th grade. Head-constables :— Addition of 150 appointments in 2nd grade by a corresponding reduction in the 3rd grade.
..	Increase of pay and	.....	1,75,000	1,75,000	.....	1,75,000	1,75,000	The question has been submitted to the Government of India for orders.

Ditto	...	Introduction of the station boat system in the district of Bakarganj.	5,000	2,808	7,808	.....	2,808	2,808	This has been sanctioned. The non-recurring charge will be incurred during the current year, 1913-14.
Ditto	...	A launch for the Deputy Inspector-General of Police, Dacca.	48,287	10,465	58,752	12,000	6,135	18,135	The launch is under construction and Rs. 12,000 will be required to complete it in 1914-15
Ditto	...	A launch for the Assistant Superintendent of Police, Munshiganj.	34,837	8,267	43,104	34,837	4,101	38,938	
Ditto	...	Alterations to the steam-launch *Warden*.	8,000	180	8,180	8,000	90	8,090	This launch is for the Assistant Superintendent of Police, Madaripur, and is at present quite unsuitable for the use of European officers. Certain alterations are therefore necessary.
Ditto	...	Settling of *Karwal nuts* of the Rajshahi Division under the Criminal Tribes Act.	23,000	3,600	26,600	23,000	3,600	26,600	
Allowances	...	Allowance to Police officers.	.....	14,721	14,721	.....	14,721	14,721	It has been decided to grant allowance to the Police officers in certain portions of Jalpaiguri and Darjeeling districts on account of expensive living and other disadvantages generally felt in those places.
Supplies and Services	...	Purchase of the Charitable Dispensary at Mymensingh.	60,000	.....	60,000	60,000	.....	60,000	This is required for extension of the Mymensingh police-station, which has already been sanctioned.
Ditto	...	Purchase of elephants ...	8,750	1,296	10,046	4,325	675	5,000	The Inspector-General of Police wanted two elephants — Recurring Rs. / Non-recurring Rs.: Dinajpur ... ... 660 / 4,326; Malda ... ... 636 / 4,425. A provision of Rs. 5,000 has only been made to enable him to provide for one elephant in 1914-15.
Ditto	...	Supply of boxes to Police officers for safe custody of case diaries.	14,510	.....	14,510	4,527	.....	4,527	Rupees 10,053 was provided for in 1913-14, and the balance Rs. 4,527 is required in 1914-15.

...t head and under which has been	Nature of scheme.	Estimate of ultimate maximum cost.			Estimate of expenditure in 1914-15.			Remarks.
		Non-recurring.	Recurring.	Total.	Non-recurring.	Recurring.	Total.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
...e—concld.		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
...	Reorganization of the River Police.	5,15,059	74,352	5,89,411	4,50,263	71,512	5,21,775	This also has received the sanction of the Secretary of State, and effect is being given gradually as funds permit. In the current year's budget Rs. 1,49,555 recurring and Rs. 3,00,000 non-recurring have been provided. The non-recurring provision proposed for 1914-15 is chiefly intended for the following :— Rs. Floating thanas ... ... 96,384 2 Inspecting offices ... ... 62,000 12 Thana launches ... ... 1,58,400 Floating quarters for 2 Inspectors ... 21,600 Shipway and buildings at Narainganj 1,00,000
ce ...	Extra cost in connection with the division of the East Indian Railway jurisdiction between Bengal and Bihar.	92	6,618	6,710	92	6,186	6,278	
	Total Police ...	12,16,650	11,29,235	23,45,885	10,51,390	11,07,432	21,58,822	
ucation.								
...	Assistant Director of Public Instruction for Muhammadan Education.	.....	26,720	26,720	.....	26,720	26,720	The provision represents the following :— Rs. Assistant Director of Public Instruction 8,400 Allowances ... ... 7,730 Establishment 3,790

								Contingencies 600
	ordinate Educational Service to enable the Presidency College to obtain affiliation in Botany and Physiology.							
Ditto ...	Appointment of a whole-time Professor of Geology.	.....	14,400	14,400	.....	4,200	4,200	At present a part-time Professor with an allowance of Rs. 200 a month is doing the work. This is considered unsatisfactory.
Ditto ...	Creation of 3 additional Provincial Educational Service appointments.	.....	10,200	10,200	.....	10,200	10,200	It is proposed to make following additional appointments :—
								Rs.
								1 in class IV 400
								1 „ „ V 350
								1 „ „ VI 300
								1,050
								Deduct one in class VIII to be transferred to Bihar 200
								Total ... 850
Ditto ...	Personal and other allowances to Senior Professors and Heads of Colleges.	.....	10,000	10,000	.....	10,000	10,000	
Government Schools—Special—								
Training School for Mistresses.	Additional stipends to be attached to the Training class, Eden High School, Dacca.	.....	5,364	5,364	.....	2,000	2,000	
	Total Education ...	.....	86,384	86,384	.....	72,820	72,820	

t head and nder which has been	Nature of scheme.	Estimate of ultimate maximum cost.			Estimate of expenditure in 1914-15.			Remarks.
		Non-recurring.	Recurring.	Total.	Non-recurring.	Recurring.	Total.	
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
edical.								Rs.
hools and	Proposal to make the temporary Serological Laboratory at the Medical College permament.	.....	34,600	34,600	.....	34,008	34,008	Salary of Lieut.-Col. Sutherland (1,950) ... 23,400 Exchange compensation allowance ... 1,248 Salary of Assistant Surgeon (280) ... ... 3,360 Pay of three menials (9) ... ... 324 Laboratory expense ... ... 5,196 One Laboratory Assistant (40—60) ... 480
:o ...	Staff of the Tropical School of Medicine.	.....	10,800	10,800	.....	5,000	5,000	Allowance to Principal ... ... 2,400 Ditto Professor of Pathology ... 2,400 Ditto ditto Biology ... 2,400 Salary of two Demonstrators (150) ... 3,600 As the school is likely to be started in November 1914, a lump provision of Rs. 5,000 has been made.
Hospitals, ospitals and es.	Improvement of nursing arrangements in mufasal.	.....	25,000	25,000	.....	25,000	25,000	
:edical ...	.....	.....	70,400	70,400	.....	64,008	64,008	
c and other epartments.								
ınd Stallion	Construction of Veterinary dispensaries at district head-quarters.	6,000	.....	6,000	6,000	.....	6,000	The District Boards are generally opposed to spend money on this account. It is necessary for Government to help them.
... ...	Revision of the whole Sericultural establish	.....	10,809	10,809	.....	5,809	5,809	It has been decided to abolish model nurseries and to establish central nurseries in their places for the supply

	.....							the silk industry in Bengal. Rupees 8,000 has been asked for in 1913-14 and the balance has been proposed for 1914-15.
Ditto ...	Cross-breeding experiments.	33,300	.....	33,300	9,000	.....	9,000	The scheme is to cross-breed European silk-worms with the Indian races, in order to find out what kind of worms will give the best result.
Agriculture	For new non-recurring expenditure in the Agricultural Department.	1,00,000	.....	1,00,000	1,00,000	.....	1,00,000	A lump provision has been made for non-recurring expenditure.
	Total Scientific and other Minor Departments.	1,68,300	14,734	1,83,034	1,36,000	9,734	1,45,734	
30.—Stationery and Printing.								
Forms office at the Presidency establishment.	Allowance to the establishment of the Forms Department.	.....	10,084	10,084	.....	10,000	10,000	This is a proposal to grant an allowance of 33 per cent. to the establishment of the Forms Department for attending office (Jail Press) from morning to dusk in view of the proposed introduction of jail hours to the Forms Branch on its amalgamation with the Jail Press.
New Central Jail Press—Supplies and Services.	Cost of Europe stores ...	6,050	.....	6,050	6,050	.....	6,050	The Superintendent of the New Central Jail wants to purchase two new printing machines and one ruling machine to cope with the increase of work. Rs. Cost of stores ... ... 5,600 Freight, etc. 450
	Total Stationery and Printing.	6,050	10,084	16,134	6,050	10,000	16,050	

jor Budget head and ub-head under which rovision has been ıade.	Nature of scheme.	Estimate of ultimate maximum cost.			Estimate of expenditure in 1914-15.			Remarks.
		Non-recurring.	Recurring.	Total.	Non-recurring.	Recurring.	Total.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
—*Irrigation—Minor Works and Navigation n charge of the Public Works Department.*	Works in connection with the Jessore Drainage Division.	2,75,000	.....	2,75,000	20,000	.....	20,000	
	Dredging the entrances of the Bhagirathi and Gorai rivers.	.....	16,000	16,000	.....	16,000	16,000	Rupees 7,000 provided for the Gorai in 1913-14.
	Flood damage repairs ...	4,26,000	.....	4,26,000	2,12,000	.....	2,12,000	This is required to make good the damage done to the embankments by the Damodar flood.
	Total ...	7,01,000	16,000	7,17,000	2,32,000	16,000	2,48,000	
	Provincial share ...	3,50,000	8,000	3,58,000	1,16,000	8,000	1,24,000	
	GRAND TOTAL ...	21,73,225	17,48,612	39,21,837	15,21,540	15,88,001	31,09,541	

[*Maharaja Ranajit Sinha of Nashipur*; *Mr. Samman.*]

RESOLUTIONS.

Expenditure—Head 24—Medical.

Appendix to the List of Business—Motion No. I.—The Hon'ble Maharaja Ranajit Sinha of Nashipur asked for leave to withdraw the following Resolution which stood in his name :—

> "This Council recommends to the Governor in Council that, out of the non-recurring grant of Rs. 18,82,772, under the head "Sanitation," a sum of two lakhs, or such other sum as the Government may deem proper, be set apart for the sanitary survey of certain of the municipalities of Bengal."

He said :—

"My Lord, I understand that the Government of India are going to issue a Resolution on sanitary matters very soon, and that the question of the sanitary survey also will be considered in that respect; and so, with your Lordship's permission, I beg to withdraw the Resolution which stands in my name."

The Resolution was, by leave of the President, withdrawn.

Appendix to the List of Business—Motion No. II.—The Hon'ble Maharaja Ranajit Sinha of Nashipur moved the following Resolution :—

> "This Council recommends to the Governor in Council that, out of the non-recurring grant of Rs. 18,82,772, under the head "Sanitation," a sum of two lakhs, or such other sum as the Government may deem proper, be utilized in building a sanitarium at some healthy station for the benefit of the people of Bengal."

He said :—

"My Lord, the Government are already doing their best for the improvement of the sanitation of Bengal, and large sums of money have been provided for that purpose. Bengal is so situated now that it has no health station, except Darjeeling, where people can go for a change of air or to recruit their health. It is most desirable that some suitable site should be selected to which people can resort for the recruitment of their health. Darjeeling especially is not suited to all Indians, because it has a very cold climate. There is the Lowis Jubilee Sanitarium, which is doing good work and is very useful in this respect, but the people—I mean most of the people—cannot avail themselves of the opportunity which is afforded to go there. The initiative might be taken by the Government, and the general public asked to contribute, if necessary, for the benefit of the people of Bengal. With these few observations I beg formally to move the Resolution."

The Hon'ble Mr. Samman said :—

"My Lord, however worthy the intentions of the Hon'ble Mover of this Resolution, I fear that there are two substantial reasons which prevent Government from accepting it. In the first place, the cost of establishing a sanitarium is not a charge upon the grant for sanitary improvements, but is one upon "Medical"; in the second place, the establishment of a sanitarium will involve recurring charges which cannot be met out of a non-recurring grant such as the one now under discussion. The Hon'ble Member has made no suggestion whatever as to how these recurring charges are to be met. Putting aside the technical objections, I may observe that the establishment of a sanitarium in this province is not a new proposal. Some few years ago a proposal was made to establish a sanitarium somewhere in the plains, and the site selected tentatively was at Simultala. That proposal was discussed for some time, but was eventually dropped. Towards that scheme the Hon'ble Maharaja of Burdwan offered the munificent contribution of one lakh, but after lengthy deliberation it was decided to drop the

proposal. Simultala has now passed out of this province, and the Hon'ble Mover has made no suggestion whatever as to what healthy site might be selected. I may mention that, in my own opinion, a sanitarium of this nature for general purposes involves a very heavy expenditure, and will really offer relief to only a very small portion of the population. There is another kind of sanitarium which might possibly be established—that is, a sanitarium for the treatment of tuberculosis; this question has recently been under discussion by the Corporation of Calcutta who have addressed the Government on the subject. The matter is now under consideration, and the Sanitary Commissioner will have to investigate it, and until that investigation is finished it is quite impossible to take any further step in advance. As, however, the charge is not one which can be debited to the grant for sanitary improvement, I hope that the Hon'ble Mover will be pleased to withdraw his motion."

The Hon'ble MAHARAJA RANAJIT SINHA of Nashipur said :—

"After the observations which have been made by the Hon'ble Member, with Your Excellency's permission I beg to withdraw my Resolution."

The resolution was then, by leave of the President, withdrawn.

Appendix to the List of Business—Motion No. III.—The Hon'ble Maharaja Ranajit Sinha of Nashipur moved the following Resolution :—

> "This Council recommends to the Governor in Council that, out of the non-recurring grant of Rs. 18,82,772, under the head "Sanitation," a sum of Rs. 5,000 be allotted to the Murshidabad Municipality as a grant for jungle-cutting, with a view to the sanitary improvement of that Municipality."

He said:—

"My Lord, it appears from the Census Report that the population of the Murshidabad Municipality is steadily and gradually decreasing. In the year 1901, the population was 13,385, whereas in 1911 it came down to 12,308. From the previous census I find that the population was more than 13,385, so that every ten years the population has been decreasing by about 3,000. If this state of things continues, I am afraid the Murshidabad Municipality will, in a few years, be depopulated altogether. We find that every house there is more or less surrounded by dense jungle, or with numbers of superfluous trees and, consequently, the sanitation of the town is far from satisfactory. It is essentially necessary that something should be done to improve the sanitation. Apart from the more important questions of water-supply and drainage, I think there would be some improvement if the jungle within the Municipality were cut down. I have put down the figures of Rs. 5,000 at a guess, but I am sure that local officers, if consulted in this matter, will agree in thinking that the jungle should be removed from the Municipality, and I hope that your Lordship's Government will see their way to grant at least some amount for this purpose.

With these few observations I beg to move my Resolution."

The Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN said :—

"The Hon'ble Maharaja of Nashipur has asked for a grant of Rs. 5,000 to the Murshidabad Municipality for jungle-cutting, and it sounds as though he considers that this would be a specific for the rapid decrease in the population. He may be right, but, apart from this question, in a matter of this sort, it is obviously for the Municipal Commissioners themselves to take the first step. No application has up to the present been received by Government for any such assistance and, until such application has been received, it will be quite impossible for Government to accept this Resolution. There is no lack of funds, and if an application is received, it will undoubtedly be carefully considered on its merits.

[*Maharaja Ranajit Sinha of Nashipur.*]

Act 184.) I would, however, point out to the Hon'ble Mover that the Municipal Act already contains a section—Section 195—which gives the Municipal Commissioners power under certain circumstances to compel the owners and occupiers to remove superfluous and noxious growth. If full advantage be taken of this section by the Municipal Commissioners there will probably be no necessity for a grant such as is recommended in this Resolution."

The Hon'ble MAHARAJA RANAJIT SINHA of Nashipur said :—

"My Lord, I am fully aware that there is a section in the Municipal Act by which the Municipal Commissioners can compel the ratepayers to have jungles cut down, but I think that as the section is worded—it refers to noxious trees and jungles—it does not give the power to compel the ratepayers to cut down the superfluous trees which surround their houses. Besides, I think it will be a great hardship if the ratepayers are forced to cut down all their trees, and, if this amount were granted to the Municipality, they would be able to pay something to the ratepayers by way of compensation for having those trees cut down. My friend the Hon'ble Mr. Samman said that there had been no application from the Municipality in this respect, but so far as my knowledge goes, whenever the Heads of Departments have visited the district, the Murshidabad Municipality have always made a reference to the subject in the addresses which they have presented, and I think that that might be considered as a sufficient application for this purpose."

The Resolution was then put and lost.

ADJOURNMENT.

The Council was adjourned to Thursday, the 26th March, 1914 at 11 A.M.

A. W. WATSON,

Secretary to the Bengal Legislative Council.

CALCUTTA ;

The 17th March, 1914.

S. Press—8-5-1914—4370J—500—B B

Abstract of the Proceedings of the Bengal Legislative Council assembled under the provisions of the Indian Councils Acts, 1861, 1892 and 1909, and the Government of India Act, 1912.

THE Council met in the Council Chamber in Government House on Thursday, the 26th March, 1914, at 11 A.M.

Present :

His Excellency the Right Hon'ble THOMAS DAVID, BARON CARMICHAEL OF SKIRLING, G.C.I.E., K.C.M.G., Governor of the Presidency of Fort William in Bengal, *presiding.*

The Hon'ble SIR FREDERICK WILLIAM DUKE, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., *Vice-President.*

The Hon'ble MR. P. C. LYON, C.S.I.

The Hon'ble NAWAB SYED SHAMS-UL-HUDA.

The Hon'ble MR. C. J. STEVENSON-MOORE, C.V.O.

The Hon'ble MR. F. J. MONAHAN.

The Hon'ble MR. J. G. CUMMING, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. J. H. KERR, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. H. L. STEPHENSON, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. H. F. SAMMAN.

The Hon'ble MR. H. H. GREEN.

The Hon'ble LT. COL. A. C. DEL. JOLY DE LOTBINIÈRE, C.S.I., C.I.E

The Hon'ble MR. B. B. NEWBOULD.

The Hon'ble MR. C. H. BOMPAS.

The Hon'ble MR. W. W. HORNELL.

The Hon'ble MR. C. F. PAYNE.

The Hon'ble RAI PRIYA NATH MUKHARJI BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble COL. G. F. A. HARRIS, C.S.I.

The Hon'ble MR. H. J. HILARY.

The Hon'ble DR. NILRATAN SIRCAR.

The Hon'ble RAJA HRISHIKESH LAHA, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. BYOMKES CHAKRAVARTI.

The Hon'ble SIR BIJAY CHAND MAHTAB, K.C.S.I., K.C.I.E., I.O.M., Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan.

The Hon'ble DR. DEBA PRASAD SARBADHIKARI.

The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble MR. NORMAN MCLEOD.

The Hon'ble MR. J. C. SHORROCK.

The Hon'ble MR. W. T. GRICE.

The Hon'ble MR. GOLAM HOSSEIN CASSIM ARIFF.

The Hon'ble MAULVI MAZHARUL ANWAR CHAUDHURI.

The Hon'ble MAULVI MUSHARRAF HUSAIN.

The Hon'ble MAULVI A. K. FAZ-UL-HAQ.

The Hon'ble NAWAB SAIYID HOSSAM HAIDER CHAUDHURI, KHAN BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble MAHARAJA RANAJIT SINHA OF NASHIPUR.

The Hon'ble BABU PRASANNA KUMAR RAY.

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI.

The Hon'ble BABU MAHENDRA NATH RAY.

The Hon'ble RAI HARI MOHAN CHANDRA BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble BABU UPENDRA LAL RAY.

OATH OF ALLEGIANCE.

The Hon'ble Mr. Green and the Hon'ble Lt.-Col. deL. Joly de Lotbinière made the prescribed oath of their allegiance to the Crown.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 1.

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS.

By the Hon'ble BABU PRASANNA KUMAR RAY :—

Promotion of Sub-Registrars to the rank of Deputy Collectors.

I.—(*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether District Sub-Registrars and other Sub-Registrars are eligible for promotion to the ranks of Deputy Collectors and Sub-Deputy Collectors ?

(*b*) If so, by whom are the nominations for such promotions made ?

The following answer by the Hon'ble MR. CUMMING was laid on the table :—

I.—(*a*) The answer is in the affirmative.

(*b*) Sub-Registrars are not considered a normal recruiting ground for the Provincial and Subordinate Civil Services; but if any recommendation is made on behalf of any Sub-Registrar by the Inspector-General of Registration, it is carefully considered by Government.

[*Babu Prasanna Kumar Ray; Mr. Cumming; Mr. Samman; Maulvi A. K. Faz-ul-Haq; Mr. Stephenson.*]

By the Hon'ble BABU PRASANNA KUMAR RAY :—

Grant of special allowance to the Small Cause Court Judges of Sealdah, Howrah and Dacca.

II.—Will the Government be pleased to state whether they are considering the advisability of granting a special allowance to the officers of the Provincial Judicial Service who hold the posts of Judges of the Small Cause Courts at Sealdah, Howrah and Dacca, respectively ?

The following answer by the Hon'ble MR. CUMMING was laid on the table :—

II.—The answer is in the negative.

By the Hon'ble BABU PRASANNA KUMAR RAY :—

Improvement in the pay and prospects of the Lower Subordinate Educational Service.

III.—(*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether any scheme has been framed for the improvement of the pay and prospects of the Lower Subordinate Educational Service ?

(*b*) If so, when are the final orders of Government likely to issue ?

(*c*) If not, will the Government be pleased to state whether such a scheme is likely to be framed soon ?

The following answer by the Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN was laid on the table :—

III.—(*a*) (*b*) (*c*) No such scheme has been framed. The question of the reconstitution of the Lower Subordinate Educational Service is receiving the attention of Government, but it is impossible to say at present when a decision will be arrived at.

By the Hon'ble MAULVI A. K. FAZ-UL-HAQ :—

Employment of Muhammadans in the Bengal Secretariat and attached offices

IV.—Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing—

(*i*) the total number of persons employed in the Bengal Secretariat and attached offices, department by department, on the 1st April, 1912 ;

(*ii*) the total number of Muhammadans so employed ;

(*iii*) the total number of vacancies which occurred in the Secretariat and attached offices during 1912-13 and 1913, January, 1914 ;

(*iv*) the number of Muhammadans appointed permanently to fill such vacancies during those two years ; and

(*v*) the total number of Muhammadans employed as aforesaid on the 1st April, 1913, and on the 1st February, 1914 ?

The following answer by the Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON was laid on the table :—

IV.—A statement giving the required information is laid on the table.

[*Mr. Stephenson.*]

Statement referred to in the Answer by the Hon'ble Mr. Stephenson to Question No. IV asked by the Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Faz-ul-Haq at the meeting of Council of the 26th March, 1914.

1	2	3	4		5	6		7
NAME OF DEPARTMENT OR HEAD OF DEPARTMENT LOCATED IN CALCUTTA.	Total number of persons employed on the 1st April, 1912.	Total number of Muhammadans so employed.	Total number of vacancies in the Department during— Office		Number of Muhammadans employed permanently to fill such vacancies.	Total number of Muhammadans employed as aforesaid on—		REMARKS.
			1912-13.	1913 to January, 1914.		1st April, 1913.	1st February, 1914.	
1. Chief Secretary's Office	84	9	2*	1	1	9	9	* One of them was a Muhammadan vacancy.
2. General and Revenue Secretary's Office.	54	4	Nil	4	1	4	5	
3. Financial Secretary's Office	65	5	11 including 8* transferred to Bihar and Orissa.	4	Nil	3	5(a)	*These vacancies have been filled up by six men from Eastern Bengal and Assam Secretariat of which three Muhammadans are mentioned in column 5. (a) Including two temporary.
4. Public Works Secretary's Office ...	84	4	6	1	Nil	4	4	
5. Revenue Secretary's Office	Nil	Nil	Nil	...	...	...	...	A separate office of the Revenue Secretary was formed from the beginning of September, 1913. The present staff consists of 50 Assistants of which five are Muhammadans.
6. Legislative Department Book Dépôt Branch.	14	Nil	Nil	1	1	Nil	1	
	16	Nil	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	
HEADS OF DEPARTMENT.								
Offices subordinate to Chief Secretary.								
1. Bengali Translator's Office	9	Nil	1	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	
2. Calcutta Police Office	74	12	16*	Nil	2	13	13	* The number 16 represents six new appointments created for the Special Branch Office, Calcutta Police, and were filled in by one Madrasi, one European, one Muhammadan and three Bengalis.
3. Office of the Inspector-General of Police.	72	5	9	5	2	6	4	
4. Office of the Inspector-General of Prisons.	24	Nil	1	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	
Offices subordinate to General Secretary.								
1. Director of Public Instruction's Office	48	9	1*	4*	Nil	9	8	*Four posts out of five have not yet been filled up.
2. Archdeacon's Office	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	
3. Sanitary Commissioner's Office ...	19	Nil	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	
4. Sanitary Board	4	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	
5. Registrar-General of Births, Deaths and Marriages.	4	2	1	Nil	Nil	1	1	
Offices subordinate to Financial Secretary.								
1. Office of the Inspector-General of Civil Hospitals, Bengal.	26	3	Nil	Nil	Nil	3	2*	* One Muhammadan assistant exchanged his appointment with the Hindu assistant of the office of the Commissioner of the Dacca Division.
2. Protector of Emigrants and Superintendent of Emigration.	13	1	1	1	1	1	1	
3. Commissioner of Excise and Salt, Bengal.	23	2	1	Nil	Nil	2	3	
4. Collector of Customs, etc.	211	14	8	6	4	16	17	
Offices subordinate to Public Works Secretary.								
1. Superintending Engineer, Presidency Circle.	20	Nil	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	
2. Superintending Engineer, South-Western Circle.	2	Nil	1	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	
3. Superintending Engineer, Central Circle.	1	1	2	8	Nil	1	1	
Offices subordinate to Revenue Secretary.								
1. Board of Revenue	90	9	Nil	Nil	Nil	9(a)	4(b)	(a) Out of a reduced establishment consisting of 80 clerks. (b) Out of a reduced establishment consisting of 25 clerks.
2. Director of Agriculture	20	6	Nil	Nil	Nil	6	6	
3. Director of Land Records	13	2	Nil	Nil	Nil	2	2	
Registrar, Co-operative Societies ...	5	Nil	1	2	1*	Nil	Nil	* Since dead.
Inspector-General of Registration ...	24	3	4	3	Nil	3*	1	* One since dead. One transferred to Faridpur.
Director of Surveys	7	Nil	4	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	

[*Babu Surendra Nath Ray ; Mr. Samman.*]

By the Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH RAY :—

Grants-in-aid to secondary schools.

V.—Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing, division by division,—

(*a*) the names, and

(*b*) the number

of secondary schools that have received from Government an increase in their grants-in-aid during the official year 1913-14, and the amount of such increase in each case ?

The following answer by the Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN was laid on the table:—

V.—"A statement giving the required information is laid on the table."

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN THE ANSWER BY THE HON'BLE MR. SAMMAN TO QUESTION NO. V (UNSTARRED) ASKED BY THE HON'BLE BABU SURENDRA NATH RAY AT THE COUNCIL MEETING OF THE 26TH MARCH, 1914.

Secondary schools that have received from Government an increase in their grants-in-aid during 1913-14.

PRESIDENCY DIVISION.

Serial No.	Names of Schools.	Amount of increase.
		Rs.
1	Garden Reach High English ...	100 a month.
2	Diamond Harbour ,, ...	100 ,,
3	Nibadhai ,, ...	97 ,,
4	Baranagore Victoria ,, ...	60 ,,
5	Basirhat ,, ...	60 ,,
6	Naihati ,, ...	55 ,,
7	Halishar ,, ...	70 ,,
8	Krishnagar C.M.S. ,, ...	70 ,,
9	Jamsherpur ,, ...	65 ,,
10	Majdia Railbazar ,, ...	60 ,,
11	Chuadanga ,, ...	40 ,,
12	Kushtia ,, ...	60 ,,
13	Shikarpur	65

[*Mr. Samman.*]

PRESIDENCY DIVISION—*continued.*

Serial No.	Names of Schools.	Amount of increase.
		Rs.
14	Harinarayanpur High English ...	70 a month.
15	Ranaghat ,, ...	75 ,,
16	Natudah ,, ...	50 ,,
17	Meherpur ,, ...	70 ,,
18	Khagra L.M.S. ,, ...	75 ,,
19	Salar Edward ,, ...	60 ,,
20	Jangipur ,, ...	50 ,,
21	Kalia ,, ...	55 ,,
22	Narail Victoria ,, ...	45 ,,
23	Magura ,, ...	60 ,,
24	Bangaon ,, ...	75 ,,
25	Jhenidah ,, ...	75 ,,
26	Bagerhat ,, ...	60 ,,
27	Daulatpur ,, ...	115 ,,
28	Satkhira ,, ...	90 ,,
29	St. Barnabas's (Kidderpore) Middle English	35 ,,
30	Ahiritola Banga Vidyalaya ,, ...	28 ,,
31	Ditto Pathashala ,, ...	28 ,,
32	Chakerberia ,, ...	20 ,,
33	Chetla Gopalnagar ,, ...	25 ,,
34	Kalighat ,, ...	15 ,,
35	Mudiali ,, ...	31 ,,
36	Budge-Budge ,, ...	15 ,,
37	Khardaha ,, ...	15 ,,
38	Bhatpara ,, ...	38 ,,
39	Kaurapukur ,, ...	40 ,,
40	Garifa ,, ...	40 ,,

[*Mr. Samman.*]

PRESIDENCY DIVISION—*continued.*

Serial No.	Names of Schools.	Amount of increase.
		Rs.
41	Dhankuria Middle English ...	32 a month.
42	Bijpur ,, ...	43 ,,
43	Kasipur ,, ...	17-8 ,,
44	Baduria L.M.S. ,, ...	24 ,,
45	Santipur Hindu ,, ...	25 ,,
46	Navadwip ,, ...	25 ,,
47	Mohanpur ,, ...	34 ,,
48	Barkhali ,, ...	22 ,,
49	Bhaduria ,, ...	38 ,,
50	South Goria ,, ...	25 ,,
51	Habra ,, ...	30 ,,
52	Chotajaguli ,, ...	15 ,,
53	Bodra ,, ...	40 ,,
54	Gobindapur ,, ...	30 ,,
55	Rajibpur ,, ...	23 ,,
56	Burul ,, ...	33 ,,
57	Salipur ,, ...	29 ,,
58	Panitar ,, ...	45 ,,
59	Champakur ,, ...	34 ,,
60	Sengram ,, ...	24 ,,
61	Talbaria ,, ...	20 ,,
62	Barala ,, ...	30 ,,
63	Sijgram ,, ...	27 ,,
64	Dopukuria ,, ...	24 ,,
65	Aurangabad ,, ...	26 ,,
66	Gobindapur ,, ...	28 ,,
67	Baidyapur ,, ...	28 ,,
68	Sagarpara ,, ...	25 ,,
69	Rukunpur ,, ...	28 ,,
70	Salu ,, ...	25 ,,
71	Sagardighi ,, ...	25 ,,
72	Jhikargacha ,, ...	25 ,,
73	Basundia ,, ...	18 ,,
74	Sailkupa ,, ...	33 ,,
75	Harinakundu ,, ...	20 ,,
76	Mirzapur ,, ...	25 ,,
77	Shamkur ,, ...	30 ,,
78	Dasani ,, ...	24 ,,
79	Sriulla ,, ...	25 ,,
	Girls' Schools.	
80	Victoria Institution	205 a month.
81	Brahmo Girls' School	100 ,,
82	Diocesan Collegiate School	3,080 for the official year 1913-14.
83	Aryan Girls' School	40 a month.
84	B.Z.M. High School	12 for the official year 1913-14.
85	Christ Church High School	12 ,,
86	C.E.Z. Converts' Home, Baranagore ...	216 ,,
87	C.Z.M. Orphanage and Normal (Cossipore) ...	176 ,,
88	U.F.C. High School	396 ,,

[*Mr. Samman.*]

PRESIDENCY DIVISION—*concluded.*

Serial No.	Names of Schools.	Amount of increase.
	Girls' Schools—concluded.	Rs.
89	Darjipara Hindu M.V.	145 for the official year 1913-14.
90	Peary Charan ,, ,, ...	340 ,,
91	Pryo Nath ,, ,, ...	290 ,,
92	Kaorapukur L.M.S.	780 ,,

BURDWAN DIVISION.

1	U.F.C. Institution, Chinsurah, High English.	38 a month.
2	Chatra High English	122 ,,
3	Konnagar ,, ...	77 ,,
4	Serampore ,, ...	82 ,,
5	Arambagh ,, ...	69 ,,
6	Maju ,, ...	85 ,,
7	Baluti ,, ...	70 ,,
8	Gar Bhawanipur ,, ...	95 ,,
9	Amta ,, ...	46 ,,
10	Rashpur ,, ...	80 ,,
11	Garbetta ,, ...	122 ,,
12	Birsingha ,, ...	23 ,,
13	Contai ,, ...	75 ,,
14	Pingla ,, ...	64 ,,
15	Bishnupur ,, ...	119 ,,
16	Kuchkuchia ,, ...	31 ,,
17	Kotalpur ,, ...	68 ,,
18	Bandgora ,, ...	99 ,,
19	Hetampore ,, ...	102 ,,
20	Rampurhat ,, ...	54 ,,
21	Nakraconda ,, ...	105 ,,
22	Labpur ,, ...	106 ,,
23	Katwa ,, ...	120 ,,
24	Raniganj ,, ...	99 ,,
25	Okersa ,, ...	95 ,,
26	Nasigram ,, ...	78 ,,
27	Serampore Middle English ...	36 ,,
28	Belur ,, ...	36 ,,
29	Santragachi ,, ...	40 ,,
30	Bali ,, ...	26 ,,
31	Uttarpara ,, ...	30 ,,
32	Khirpai ,, ...	6 ,,
33	Ramjibanpur ,, ...	20 ,,
34	Baptist Mission ,, ... Midnapore	23 ,,
35	Kusumgram ,, ...	8 ,,
36	Rishra ,, ...	46 ,,
37	Ahmadpur ,, ...	33 ,,
38	Rampurhat ,, ...	12 ,,
39	Paikar ,, ...	22 ,,
40	Mangram ,, ...	22 ,,
41	Kshirgram ,, ...	26 ,,
42	Chanduli ,, ...	15 ,,
43	Alampur ,, ...	15 ,,

[*Mr. Samman.*]

BURDWAN DIVISION—*concluded.*

Serial No.	Names of Schools.				Amount of increase.	
					Rs.	
44	Majigram	Middle English		...	12	a month.
45	Ondal	,,	...	...	15	,,
46	Gopalpur	,,	...	...	15	,,
47	Nadiha	,,	...	...	15	,,
48	Bujrukdighi	,,	...	...	15	,,
49	Gotan	,,	...	...	22	,,
50	Kakgachhia	,,	...	...	25	,,
51	Garbasudebpur	,,	...	...	27	,,
52	Kenchkapur	,,	...	...	20	,,
53	Raghunathbari	,,	...	...	19	,,
54	Uchahar	,,	...	...	24	,,
55	Jhargram	,,	...	...	18	,,
56	Dwarbasini	,,	...	...	15	,,
57	Rajhati Bandar	,,	...	...	14	,,
58	Jangipara Krishnagar	,,	...	...	12	,,
59	Akna	,,	...	...	30	,,
60	Sugandhya	,,	...	...	15	,,
61	Jamgram	,,	...	...	20	,,
62	Bara	,,	...	...	20	,,
63	Bighati	,,	...	...	20	,,
64	Panchal	,,	...	...	25	,,
65	Kaktia	,,	...	...	15	,,
66	Hijaldiha	,,	...	...	15	,,
67	Rajagram	,,	...	...	13	,,
68	Ramkristopur	,,	...	...	19	,,
69	Ganeshpur	,,	...	...	25	,,
70	Khasmora	,,	...	...	40	,,
71	Brahmanpara	,,	...	...	10	,,
72	Shyampur	,,	...	...	14	,,
73	Mahiary	,,	...	...	10	,,
74	Khalna	,,	...	...	24	,,
75	Jorabat	,,	...	...	5	,,
76	Singti Sibpur	,,	...	...	20	,,
	Girls' Schools.					
77	Baniban Middle English		...	...	240	for the official year 1913-14.
78	Sarenga Middle Vernacular		...	...	8	a month.

DACCA DIVISION.

1	Malkhanagar	High English	...	...	110	a month.
2	Hasara	,,	...	...	40	,,
3	Kajirpagla	,,	...	...	65	,,
4	Bandura	,,	...	...	70	,,
5	Idilpur	,,	...	...	50	,,
6	Lousing	,,	...	...	25	,,
7	Churain	Middle English	...	...	25	,,
8	Chapair	,,	...	...	25	,,
9	Gopaldih	,,	...	...	30	,,

[*Mr. Samman.*]

DACCA DIVISION—*concluded.*

Serial No.	Names of Schools.	Amount of increase.
		Rs.
10	Manipura Middle English	15 a month.
11	Feringeebazar ,, ...	20 ,,
12	Purna ,, ...	25 ,,
13	Dhankara ,, ...	25 ,,
14	Betila ,, ...	25 ,,
15	Panchamighat ,, ...	25 ,,
16	Baliati ,, ...	25 ,,
17	Hossainpur ,, ...	20 ,,
18	Bhairab ,, ...	30 ,,
19	Kathiadi ,, ...	30 ,,
20	Jatia ,, ...	15 ,,
21	Agtarail ,, ...	30 ,,
22	Patnair ,, ...	25 ,,
23	Khernajani ,, ...	25 ,,
24	Mosakhali ,, ...	25 ,,
25	Dewanganj ,, ...	20 ,,
26	Jamurki ,, ...	20 ,,
27	Masna ,, ...	30 ,,
28	Kashtala ,, ...	30 ,,
29	Kulapaddi ,, ...	25 ,,
30	Boalmari ,, ...	5 ,,
31	Goalundo ,, ...	20 ,,
32	Chhaygaon ,, ...	30 ,,
33	Kauni Daradia Daulatpur Middle English ...	28 ,,
34	Pangsa Middle English	15 ,,
35	Kajulia ,, ...	33 ,,
36	Majbari ,, ...	23 ,,
37	Kabirajpur ,, ...	30 ,,
38	Baliakandi ,, ...	30 ,,
39	Amgram ,, ...	30 ,,
40	Barddi ,, ...	30 ,,
41	Bhandaria ,, ...	30 ,,
42	Basanda ,, ...	23 ,,
43	Swarupkati ,, ...	32 ,,
44	Mathbaria ,, ...	25 ,,
45	Banfal ,, ...	34 ,,
46	Dehergati ,, ...	10 ,,
47	Rayerkati ,, ...	15 ,,
48	Adiabad Middle Madrasa	15 ,,
49	Paratali ,, ...	20 ,,
50	Puranbansia ,, ...	25 ,,
51	Rajafair ,, ...	25 ,,
52	Kamarerchar ,, ...	20 ,,
53	Buxiganj ,, ...	20 ,,
54	Devagram ,, ...	25 ,,
55	Guthail ,, ...	30 ,,
56	Madaripur ,, ...	30 ,,
57	Janjira ,, ...	20 ,,
58	Daulatkhan ,, ...	15 ,,
	Girls' School.	
59	Barisal Middle English	80 a month.

[*Mr. Samman.*]

RAJSHAHI DIVISION.

Serial No.	Names of Schools.		Amount of increase.
			Rs.
1	Gaibanda	High English ...	50 a month.
2	Kurigram	,, ...	20 ,,
3	Sirajganj	,, ...	75 ,,
4	Shahzadpur	,, ...	75 ,,
5	Balurghat	,, ...	55 ,,
6	Sonatala	,, ...	25 ,,
7	Thakurgaon	,, ...	80 ,,
8	Saidpur	,, ...	50 ,,
9	Noagaon K. D.	,, ...	50 ,,
10	Porjona	,, ...	75 ,,
11	Debiganj	,, ...	100 ,,
12	Sherpur	,, ...	75 ,,
13	Patazia	,, ...	75 ,,
14	Ullapura	,, ...	95 ,,
15	Chatmohar	,, ...	75 ,,
16	Kurseong	Middle English ...	33 ,,
17	Siliguri	,, ...	20 ,,
18	Old Malda	,, ...	30 ,,
19	Santahar	,, ...	20 ,,
20	Rajarampur	,, ...	20 ,,
21	Kharibari	,, ...	20 ,,
22	Talorā	,, ...	30 ,,
23	Afanulla	,, ...	20 ,,
24	Kalimpong	,, ...	25 ,,
25	Sujapur	,, ...	20 ,,
26	Arani	,, ...	20 ,,
27	Jalpaiguri Sadar	,, ...	20 ,,
28	Mohimaganj	,, ...	30 ,,
29	Nagharia	,, ...	25 ,,
30	Chowhali	Middle Madrasa	60 ,,
31	Dhulwari	,, ...	20 ,,
32	Porsha	,, ...	33 ,,
		Girls' Schools.	
33	Pabna	Middle Vernacular ...	45 a month.
34	Jalpaiguri Sadar	... ...	85 ,,
35	Dinajpur ,,	... ...	132 ,,

CHITTAGONG DIVISION.

1	Brahmanbaria Annada	High English ...	18 a month.
2	Chandpur Hasanali Jubilee	,, ...	40 ,,
3	Muradnagar	,, ...	75 ,,
4	Nabinagar	,, ...	45 ,,
5	Sarail Annada	,, ...	40 ,,
6	Paschimgaon	,, ...	55 ,,
7	Feni	,, ...	25 ,,
8	R. K. Jubilee	,, ...	42 ,,
9	Lakhmipur	,, ...	75 ,,
10	Sandwip Cargill	,, ...	15 ,,
11	Chittagong Municipal	,, ...	20 ,,

[*Mr. Samman.*]

CHITTAGONG DIVISION—*concluded.*

Serial No.	Names of Schools.			Amount of increase.
				Rs.
12	Patiya	High English	... ...	50 a month.
13	Saroatali	,,	... ...	50 ,,
14	Satkania	,,	... ...	50 ,,
15	Chittagong	Middle English	...	30 ,,
16	Colonel's hât	,,	...	30 ,,
17	Sarkar's hât	,,	...	30 ,,
18	Mahajan's hât	,,	...	30 ,,
19	Karer hât	,,	...	30 ,,
20	Rosangiri	,,	...	30 ,,
21	Nanupur	,,	...	30 ,,
22	South Raozan	,,	...	30 ,,
23	Kharandwip	,,	...	30 ,,
24	Dhalghat	,,	...	30 ,,
25	Anwara	,,	...	42 ,,
26	Paraikora	,,	...	25 ,,
27	Amilaish	,,	...	30 ,,
28	Jaldi	,,	...	32 ,,
29	Chandpur	,,	...	40 ,,
30	Chauddagram	,,	...	40 ,,
31	Hajiganj	,,	...	40 ,,
32	Matlabganj	,,	...	30 ,,
33	Candra	,,	...	30 ,,
34	Barichong	,,	...	39 ,,
35	Kesaddi	,,	...	35 ,,
36	Ram Chandrapur	,,	...	30 ,,
37	Narayanpur	,,	...	30 ,,
38	Guniuk	,,	...	32 ,,
39	Mogra	,,	...	27 ,,
40	Dhamra	,,	...	38 ,,
41	Bargaon	,,	...	30 ,,
42	Narsingpur	,,	...	30 ,,
43	Sahabazpur	,,	...	34 ,,
44	Alanukipur	,,	...	30 ,,
45	Ratanpur	,,	...	30 ,,
46	Mashikara	,,	...	30 ,,
47	Payerkhola	,,	...	30 ,,
48	Pana Mian Trust Fund	,,	...	35 ,,
49	Sonaimuri	,,	...	39 ,,
50	Gopalpur Ali Haidar	,,	...	42 ,,
51	Farashganj	,,	...	35 ,,
52	Kanchanpur	,,	...	36 ,,
53	Kabirhat	,,	...	40 ,,
54	Dagan Bhuyia	,,	...	48 ,,
55	Fulgazi	,,	...	42 ,,
56	Ali Azam	,,	...	37 ,,
57	Parashuram	,,	...	40 ,,
58	Charsiddi	,,	...	35 ,,

[*Babu Upendra Lal Ray; Mr. Samman; Sir William Duke.*]

Budget of Government of Bengal for 1914-15.

Expenditure on hostel accommodation in the Presidency.

By the Hon'ble BABU UPENDRA LAL RAY :—

VI.—Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing the sum spent each year towards hostel accommodation in this Presidency during the last two financial years ?

The following answer by the Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN was laid on the table :—

VI.—"The total amounts spent on hostel accommodation for Indian colleges and schools during the financial years 1911-12 and 1912-13 were Rs. 1,58,081 and Rs. 5,14,770, respectively."

THE BENGAL BUDGET FOR 1914-15.

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 2.

The Hon'ble Sir William Duke, in presenting the Budget of the Government of Bengal for 1914-15, said as follows :—

"My Lord, I have the honour to present the Budget for 1914-15. As stated in the memorandum which accompanies it, no change has been made in the figures as included in the Revised Financial Statement, and it therefore requires no remarks from me.

I venture to draw the attention of Hon'ble Members to the last paragraph of the memorandum. The discussion will take place at the Session which commences on the 2nd April, and it will be to the convenience of official members in charge of the different heads of the Budget if Hon'ble Members will send in to the Secretary to the Council notes or speeches conveying some indication of the subjects on which they propose to speak in order that information on those subjects may be collected."

BUDGET OF THE GOVERNMENT OF BENGAL FOR 1914-15.

FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

FINANCE BRANCH.

Calcutta, the 25th March 1914.

MEMORANDUM.

IN accordance with Rule 33 (1) of the Bengal Legislative (Financial Statement) Rules, 1912, published with Notification No. 4482F., dated the 10th December 1912, the Budget will be presented to the Council on the 26th March 1914.

2. No change has been made in the figures as included in the Revised Financial Statement. An Appendix C has been added, as usual, to show the transactions of District Boards and District Road Fund (Darjeeling), although this does not form part of the Provincial Budget proper.

3. The Members in charge of the different departments would be much obliged if, in accordance with the practice in previous years, Hon'ble Members will give as early intimation as possible of any points which they may desire to raise, in order that information may be collected regarding them.

F. W. DUKE.

[*Sir William Duke.*]

BUDGET OF THE GOVERNMENT OF BENGAL FOR 1914-15.

PART I.—General Review.

(1) ACCOUNTS FOR 1912-13.

In the revised estimate for 1912-13, which was laid before the Council on the 26th March 1913, the receipts of the year were taken at Rs. 7,12,53,000 and the charges at Rs. 5,95,55,000, while the anticipated closing balance was Rs. 2,83,23,000. The accounts of 1912-13 as finally closed show that the actual receipts amounted to Rs. 7,16,53,401 and the charges to Rs. 5,69,48,131, and the closing balance was Rs. 3,13,30,270. The receipts were thus better by Rs. 4,00,401, this improvement having occurred chiefly under "Land Revenue Adjustments" (Rs. 1,32,885) for the cost of forms for the Assam Administration; Excise (Rs. 2,59,045) owing to better settlement of shops and consequent larger advance collections in March 1913, and Miscellaneous (Rs. 1,36,339) on account of larger lapse of deposits. The actual charges were less by Rs. 26,06,869, chiefly under the following heads: Land Revenue (Rs. 1,26,872) owing to smaller expenditure on the improvement of Government Estates; Courts of Law (Rs. 1,65,600) as the expenditure under "Civil and Sessions Courts" and "Mufassal law charges" was smaller than anticipated; Police (Rs. 1,55,141) as the grant for police reforms and river police was not fully utilized; Ports and Pilotage (Rs. 1,15,991), due to larger recoveries by the Agent for Government Consignments, which are taken in reduction of expenditure; Education (Rs. 2,92,171) on account of short expenditure from Imperial grants; Miscellaneous (Rs. 1,31,390) owing to the transfer of the lump provision from this head to meet the charges for grain compensation allowance to the respective Departments; Civil Works in charge of the Public Works Department (Rs. 7,78,245), chiefly on account of lapses of grants for land acquisition for the extension of the Presidency College and School of Tropical Medicine, Calcutta, and lastly under Civil Works in charge of Civil officers (Rs. 7,13,616) owing to non-utilization of the full amount provided for expenditure on sanitation.

(2) REVISED ESTIMATE, 1913-14.

2. The revised estimate for 1913-14, as now passed, on the basis of the actuals of the first nine, and in some cases ten, months of the current year, is compared below with the sanctioned estimate for the year:—

	Sanctioned estimate.	Revised estimate.	Better (+) or worse (—).
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Opening balance ..	2,83,23,000	3,13,30,000	+30,07,000
Revenue receipts ...	5,36,13,000	5,59,31,000	+23,18,000
Adjustments ...	+56,43,000	+57,39,000	+96,000
Total receipts ...	5,92,56,000	6,16,70,000	+24,14,000
GRAND TOTAL ...	8,75,79,000	9,30,00,000	+54,21,000
Total expenditure ...	6,82,09,000	6,25,70,000	+56,39,000
Closing balance ...	1,93,70,000	3,04,30,000	+1,10,60,000

[*Sir William Duke.*]

3. The increase under adjustments is due to the additional assignments from Imperial to Provincial Revenues as well as to other changes shown below :—

	Rs.	Rs.
Add—		
Recurring Imperial grant to the Church Missionary Society College, Calcutta	6,000	
Recurring Imperial grant for the improvement of female education...	30,000	
Additional contribution to meet the charges of Lieutenant-Colonel Sutherland's deputation to serological work	5,000	
Contribution ditto of Captain Shingleton Smith's deputation ...	7,000	
Contribution for the cost of forms to Assam Administration ...	89,000	
Contribution for grant to the Chittagong Port	75,000	
		2,12,000
Deduct—		
Special assignment from Provincial to Imperial for repairs to Nizamat Palace, Murshidabad ...	40,000	
Annual assignment from Provincial to Bihar and Orissa for law charges...	15,000	
Annual assignment to Bihar and Orissa for Collegiate and University education	21,000	
Special assignment for making certain alterations to the buildings of the Calcutta Museum for delivery of lectures	2,000	
Omission of the contribution from Bihar and Orissa for fishery experiments	15,000	
Reduction of the assignment from Bihar and Orissa for cost of forms (from Rs. 2,32,000 to Rs. 2,09,000) ...	23,000	
		1,16,000
		96,000

4. The principal fluctuations under the Revenue heads are noticed briefly below. The improvements aggregate Rs. 27,27,000, and are chiefly under the following heads :—

Stamps—(Rs. 1,00,000), due to larger sale of stamps chiefly in Calcutta and principally on account of high prices ruling in the jute trade.

Excise—(Rs. 13,45,000), due to increase in license fees obtained in the settlement of shops and to higher rates of duty on *ganja* and country spirit which came into effect from April 1913.

Assessed Taxes—(Rs. 4,50,000), owing to a general increase in trade profits.

Forests—(Rs. 2,50,000), due to sale of timber previously extracted in Buxa, to the expansion of fuel trade in Kurseong and to better prices obtained for timber in Buxa and Chittagong.

Registration—(Rs. 70,000), due to the increase in the number of registrations.

Courts of Law—(Rs. 1,02,000), due to larger receipts from magisterial fines and from court-fees realized in cash.

Jails—(Rs. 67,000), due to larger sale of manufactured articles.

Scientific and other Minor Departments—(Rs. 87,000), due to larger sale of quinine.

Miscellaneous—(Rs. 87,000), due chiefly to anticipated lapse of deposits at the close of the year and partly to the sale of land to the railway at Chittagong and to the realization of larger audit fees on the completion of arrear audits.

[*Sir William Duke.*]

Under the following heads, on the other hand, the revenue fell off, the total decrease being Rs. 4,09,000:—

Land Revenue—(Rs. 1,49,000), on account of suspensions in the districts of Midnapore and Hooghly owing to floods.

Ports and Pilotage—(Rs. 1,60,000), chiefly under Pilotage receipts owing to decrease in the number of vessels.

Irrigation—Minor Works and Navigation—(Rs. 59,000), due to a falling off in the receipts of the Madaripore Bhil Route, on account of concessions granted to passenger steamers and in the Calcutta and Eastern canals on account of storms and a smaller traffic in rice and jute.

5. On the expenditure side the revised estimate shows a total decrease of Rs. 71,46,000, which is mainly accounted for under the following heads:—

Land Revenue—(Rs. 84,000), due to larger savings in the grant under "Salaries," and larger recoveries for partition work.

Excise—(Rs. 40,000), due to the lapse of the provision for reorganization of the department.

Police—(Rs. 1,74,000), due to the lump provisions for police reforms and river police reorganization being only partially utilized.

Education—(Rs. 49,78,000), due to savings in the Imperial grants.

Medical—(Rs. 12,01,000), due to savings in the Imperial grants for sanitation, and medical relief and to the provision for the School of Tropical Medicine being only partially spent.

Scientific and other Minor Departments—(Rs. 1,81,000), due to savings in the grants of the Agricultural Department and Botanic Gardens and also in the Imperial grant for Agriculture and allied objects.

Miscellaneous—(Rs. 2,37,000), due to the adjustment to the appropriate heads of the grants made by His Excellency, and to the transfer of charges for grain allowance to the different departments by reappropriation from the lump provision made under this head.

Civil Works in charge of the Civil Department—(Rs. 1,90,000), due to the transfer of the grant to the Chittagong Port to the head "Ports and Pilotage" and also to savings in the grant for works of sanitary improvement.

On the other hand, there will be a total increase in expenditure of Rs. 15,07,000, of which the most noticeable instances are—

General Administration—(Rs. 1,52,000), due to larger expenditure on His Excellency's tour, initial expenditure on books and furniture for Council Library and to larger expenditure in the Civil Secretariat and Executive Council.

Courts of Law—(Rs. 3,43,000), due to larger expenditure for counsel's fees in connection with the Barisal conspiracy case and to larger expenditure under both Civil and Criminal Courts.

Jails—(Rs. 1,97,000), due to larger expenditure under rations and for purchase of raw materials.

Ports and Pilotage—(Rs. 62,000), owing to the adjustment of the grant to the Chittagong Port under this head.

Superannuation—(Rs. 87,000), due to the special charges for commuted value of pensions.

Irrigation—Major Works—(Rs. 33,000), due to cost of silt-clearance in Range II and Gewankhally supply channel of the Hijili Tidal Canal.

Irrigation—Minor Works and Navigation—(Rs. 64,000), due to expenditure for flood damage repairs.

Civil Works in charge of the Public Works Department—(Rs. 3,70,000), due to additional grant for land acquisition charges for the School of Tropical Medicine and extension of the Presidency College.

6. The net result of these changes is that the closing balance for 1913-14, including the sum of 20 lakhs held in trust for the Calcutta Improvement Scheme, which was estimated in March last at Rs. 1,93,70,000, is now estimated to amount to Rs. 3,04,30,000.

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(3) BUDGET ESTIMATE, 1914-15.

7. The opening balance of 1914-15 is the closing balance of 1913-14 and is, therefore, Rs. 3,04,30,000.

8. The estimates for the year, as provisionally approved by the Government of India, adopt Rs. 6,29,95,000 as receipts and Rs. 7,35,93,000 as expenditure and a closing balance of Rs. 1,98,32,000. Out of the special grant of 50 lakhs for the Calcutta Improvement Scheme, which has appeared in the accounts since 1903-04, 30 lakhs have already been paid to the Improvement Trust and 10 lakhs will be paid in 1914-15. Of the estimated closing balance the following are earmarked :—

	Rs.
Minimum balance	20,00,000
Calcutta Improvement Trust	10,00,000
Balance of discretionary grant	5,00,000
Provision promised for dredger in 1914-15 ...	5,00,000
Reorganization of subordinate police and river police in Eastern Bengal (non-recurring) ..	10,50,000
Secondary education (not utilized)	93,000
Popular education (ditto)	27,000
Dacca University (non-recurring)	7,00,000
Ditto savings of recurring grants of 1912-13 and 1913-14	90,000
Hostels outside Calcutta	55,000
Ditto in Calcutta	60,000
Non-recurring grant of 1912-13 out of 75 lakhs ...	27,05,000
Old non-recurring grant	2,81,000
Probable savings in the budget provision for Imperial grants of the Education Department for the year 1914-15	5,00,000
Non-recurring grant of 1912-13 for sanitation out of 20 lakhs	13,25,000
Old non-recurring grant	1,50,000
Probable savings in the budget provision for sanitary grant for the year 1914-15 ...	10,00,000
Bengal Government contribution for the construction of Ranchi Lunatic Asylum ...	25,00,000
Amount earmarked for provincial equipment of the three years 1915-16 to 1917-18 ...	24,00,000
Total ...	1,69,36,000

This leaves a free balance of (Rs. 1,98,32,000—1,69,36,000=) Rs. 28,96,000, which is available for new expenditure in the near future and is not too large a sum to keep in reserve.

9. The total estimated charges for 1914-15 amount to Rs. 7,35,93,000, which is in excess of the income by Rs. 1,05,98,000, owing mainly to the following provisions :—

	Rs.	Rs.
Education—		
Lump provision for non-recurring expenditure out of the Imperial grant made in 1910-11	5,11,000	
Non-recurring grant for the construction of hostels outside Calcutta and Dacca	2,17,000	
Non-recurring grant for the construction of hostels in Calcutta ...	8,70,000	
Non-recurring grant for the construction of hostels for Dacca University	3,00,000	
Lump provision for non-recurring expenditure out of the Imperial grant of 75 lakhs made in 1912-13...	30,00,000	

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	Rs.	Rs.
***Education*—concluded.**		
Non-recurring grant, being savings in the recurring grant for popular education for 1912-13 and 1913-14 ...	2,47,000	
Non-recurring grant, being savings in the recurring grant of Rs. 13,20,000 for 1913-14	12,00,000	
	63,45,000	
Deduct probable savings in the above grants	5,00,000	
		58,45,000
***Medical*—**		
Lump provision for non-recurring expenditure on Sanitation out of the Imperial grant made in 1910-11 and 7¼ lakhs made in 1911-12 ...	6,83,000	
Non-recurring grant, being savings in the recurring grant of 5 lakhs for 1913-14	4,50,000	
Non-recurring grant, being savings in the non-recurring grant of Rs. 6,75,000 provided for in the budget for 1913-14 out of the Imperial assignment of 20 lakhs ...	5,50,000	
Non-recurring grant, being savings in the recurring grant of 9 lakhs for 1912-13 and 1913-14	2,00,000	
	18,83,000	
Deduct probable savings in the above grants	10,00,000	
		8,83,000
Balance of the lump grant for Medical Relief	...	80,000
Balance of the Imperial grant for tropical medicine	...	1,00,000
Equipment for the School of Tropical Medicine	...	50,000
Balance of the Imperial grant of 2 lakhs made in 1911-12 and 1913-14 for Agriculture and allied objects	52,000	
Balance of the Imperial grant made in 1913-14 for Cinchona Department	30,000	
Provincial allotment for non-recurring expenditure of the Agricultural Department	1,00,000	
		1,82,000
Portion of Imperial assignment for discretionary grant	...	6,40,000
Grant to the Calcutta Improvement Trust	...	10,00,000
Larger grant for civil works in charge of the Public Works Department ...	...	23,19,000
Additional grant for the management of Government Estates ...	..	50,000
Purchase of a steam-launch for the Collector of Faridpur	...	40,000

10. A schedule is attached showing the new schemes, costing individually more than Rs. 5,000, which have been included in the budget. The non-recurring charges on account of these schemes amount to Rs. 15,21,540, and the recurring charges to Rs. 15,88,001. The budget includes, in

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addition, the following new schemes, of a more or less petty nature. which are individually estimated to cost Rs. 5,000 or less :—

(*a*) NON-RECURRING CHARGES.

	Rs.	Rs.
Excise—		
Purchase of Hydrometers ...	2,000	2,000
Forests—		
Construction of an Inspection Bungalow with out-houses near Raman in Singallai Range, Darjeeling ...	2,000	
Construction of a rest-house with out-houses at Gadadhar, Buxa Division	4,200	
Construction of an Inspection Bungalow near Satkania, Chittagong Division	2,000	
Construction of new range office for Chakaria Sundarbans Range ...	1,600	
Construction of quarters for Range Officer, etc., in Chittagong Division	1,900	
Construction of a new rest-house in the Chittagong Hill Tracts Division	2,500	
Forest Settlement and compensation for lands and right, Jalpaiguri ...	4,000	18,200
Registration—		
Additional grant for record racks ...	2,000	
Purchase of typewriters	3,000	5,000
General Administration—		
Purchase of books for the Library of the Legislative Council		5,000
Law and Justice—Courts of Law—		
Preserving memorial portraits in the High Court		2.000
Police—		
Calcutta Police Training School ...	4,878	
Additional Police for Government Dockyard	508	
Steam-cutter for Calcutta River Police (Government share)	3,333	
Purchase of bicycles for training school	3,060	
Construction of house-boat for Superintendent of Police, Noakhali ...	3,500	
Purchase of watchman's recorders ...	1,430	
Purchase of ponies for District Police	600	
Purchase of surveying instruments	4,000	
Do 3 panshi boats ...	1,890	23,199

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	Rs.	Rs.
Education—		
Purchase of typewriters for the Assistant Director of Public Instruction	1,000	
Special charges for compiling a new catalogue of Sanskrit manuscripts	350	
Special charges for the purchase of apparatus for secondary schools ...	2,000	
Purchase of furniture for the new school building, Middle Vernacular School, Faridpur ...	600	
		3,950
Medical—		
Replacement of old instruments ...	1,000	
Purchase of typewriters ...	2,000	
		3,000
Scientific and other Minor Departments—		
Grant to the Birch Hill Park for repairs of roads	1,000	
Emigration bungalow at Goalundo	3,000	
Dacca Poultry Farm	700	
Nursery at Bogra for Deshi seed ...	5,000	
Extension of Kalitha nursery into a central nursery	5,000	
		14,700
Stationery and Printing—		
Cost of removing forms from Dullanda to the Jail Press ...	...	2,000
Civil Works (Civil)—		
Repairs of cattle-boats in Midnapore	300	
Do. the masonry approaches of the Sambhuganj-Jamalpur ferry ghâts	2,175	
		2,475
(*b*) RECURRING CHARGES.		
Excise—		
Local allowance of Bureau officer ...	...	900
Registration—		
Revision of cadre of Sub-Registrars	4,500	
Increase of allowances to the probationers	1,800	
Cost of remitting salaries, etc., in the Western Bengal districts ...	3,000	
		9,300
General Administration—		
Grant of local allowance of Rs. 100 to one assistant of the Legislative Department who is to do the Council work	1,200	
Librarian for the Library of the Legislative Council	600	
Increase of allowances to the four probationers of the Presidency Commissioner's office and appointment of three probationers for the Dacca Commissioner's office ...	1,020	
		2,820

	Rs.	Rs.
Law and Justice—Courts of Law—		
Establishment for the Inspector of Judicial offices	936	
Three Assistant Government Pleaders for Serajganj, Madaripur and Brahmanberia	1,080	
Revision of the pay of the Bailiffs, Calcutta Small Cause Court	2,412	
		4,428
Law and Justice—Jails—		
Increased rate of water-supply charged for against the jails at Hooghly, Berhampore, Darjeeling and Mymensingh		2,900
Police—		
Feed and keep of Police dogs	600	
Entertainment of additional coolies and sweepers for the Police Hospital, Calcutta	768	
Entertainment of a sergeant for River Police, Calcutta	2,289	
Additional constables for the Sealdah Police Court	840	
Increase of the cadre of the Sealdah Railway Police	2,358	
Entertainment of a 3rd Circle Inspector and his staff for the Sadar Subdivision of Dacca ...	3,348	
Cost of the pilot engine to be employed during His Excellency's tour	4,000	
Substitution of a Sub-Inspector in the Police Training College, Sarda, for the 2nd Pandit ...	930	
Cost of force for patrolling the railway line near Ondal and Raniganj	4,385	
Introduction of station boat system, Bakarganj ...	2,808	
Reconstitution of town beat system at Pirojpur ...	1,040	
Reconstitution of town police at Barisal ...	1,146	
		24,512
Ports and Pilotage—		
Lump provision for additional establishment for increased out-door work of the office of the Agent for Government Consignments		2,400
Education—		
Appointment of Sonthal Sub-Inspectors ...	1,200	
Personal allowance of two Inspectors of Schools ...	4,200	
Increase of pay of existing maulvis and appointment of additional maulvis	2,650	
Additional Professor of Mathematics, Presidency College	2,400	
Additional Laboratory Assistant, Civil Engineering College, Sibpur	900	
Enhanced boarding allowance of the Victoria Boys' School, Kurseong	4,950	
Additional masters and mistresses for Mymensingh and Chittagong Girls' Schools	4,068	
Appointment of a games mistress, Dow Hill Girls' School, Kurseong, and an additional teacher for the Faizunissa Girls' School, Comilla ...	1,300	
Appointment of additional pandits and maulvis owing to the conversion of certain *guru*-training schools to *mianji*-training schools ...	1,351	
Two additional pupil-teachers for the Serampore Weaving School	1,200	
Increase in rewards and stipends to Sanskrit *tols*	2,400	
Travelling expenses of teachers to Kurseong for manual training	2,100	
Friendly gathering of teachers and parents, etc. ...	1,400	
		30,119

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	Rs.	Rs.
Medical—		
Revision of Civil Surgeons' offices	2,000	
Increase of staff allowance. Military Assistant Surgeon, General Hospital	2,000	
Additional teacher for compounder class, Campbell School	840	
Additional Sub-Assistant Surgeons, Campbell Hospital	1,800	
Allowance to the Civil Surgeon, 24-Parganas, for the charge of the Voluntary Venereal Hospital, Bhowanipur	1,800	
Appointment of an Obstetric Registrar for the Eden Hospital, Medical College	1,200	
Establishment for the Surnomoyi Hostel, Medical College (full charge now paid instead of one-half)	1,770	
Personal allowance to the Deputy Superintendent, Berhampore Lunatic Asylum	1,200	
Increase of pay of the keeper establishment of the Berhampore Lunatic Asylum	1,800	
Extra servants for paying-patients, Berhampore Lunatic Asylum	1,000	
	——	15,410
Scientific and other Minor Departments—		
Provision for three Veterinary Assistants ...	1,080	
Additional Agricultural supervisors ...	4,800	
Provision for overseer of Rangpur Dairy Farm ...	1,440	
Additional overseer, Botanical Garden, Sibpur ...	840	
Personal allowance of an overseer of the Cinchona Plantation	480	
Appointment of an additional Inspector of Factories	4,800	
Establishment for registration of steamer-borne trade at Bhairab Bazar, Mymensingh ...	1,200	
Establishment for registration of traffic passing over inland wharves	1,680	
Allowance to the Civil Surgeon of Jalpaiguri in connection with the Jalpaiguri Labour Act, 1912	1,200	
Revision of establishment, Co-operative Credit Societies Department	3,240	
Provision for a head-clerk in the office of the Deputy Director of Fisheries	720	
	——	21,480
Stationery and Printing—		
House allowance for the Assistant Manager of Forms	720	
House allowance of Engineer, new Central Jail Press	600	
	——	1,320
Miscellaneous—		
Contribution for new telegraph lines for the Police Department		4,800

11. Appendix C shows the transactions of District Boards and District Road Fund (Darjeeling). This statement does not form any part of the Provincial Budget, which is annexed thereto for convenience of reference.

PART II.—Detailed remarks on the Budget for 1914-15.

RECEIPTS.

12. *Land Revenue.*—The total collections in 1912-13 amounted to Rs. 2,79,87,156, and the estimate for 1914-15 as passed by the Government of India, is Rs. 2,96,64,000, against Rs. 2,80,42,000, the revised estimate for 913-14. The estimate includes Rs. 20,24,000 for recoveries of Survey and Settlement charges against Rs. 10,34,000 provided on the same account in the revised estimate for 1913-14.

13. The estimated provincial share of Land Revenue is calculated as follows :—

	Estimate, 1913-14.	Revised estimate, 1913-14.	Estimate, 1914-15.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Gross Land Revenue ...	2,83,88,000	2,80,42,000	2,96,64,000
Deduct—Estimated collections from Government Estates (wholly Provincial) ...	44,32,000	43,90,000	47,00,000
Deduct—Recovery of cost of maintenance of boundary pillars (wholly Provincial)	.....	2,000	2,000
Deduct—Recoveries of Survey and Settlement charges (wholly Imperial) ...	11,22,000	10,34,000	20,24,000
Total Deduction ...	55,54,000	54,26,000	67,26,000
Net amount divisible between Imperial and Provincial revenues	2,28,34,000	2,26,16,000	2,29,38,000
Provincial share, one-half ...	1,14,17,000	1,13,08,000	1,14,69,000
Add—Collections from Government estates (wholly Provincial)	44,32,000	43,90,000	47,00,000
Add—Recovery of cost of maintenance of boundary pillars (wholly Provincial)	.....	2,000	2,000
Total Provincial ...	1,58,49,000	1,57,00,000	1,61,71,000
Add—Adjustments as in paragraph below ...	56,43,000	57,39,000	57,84,000
Total Provincial receipts	2,14,92,000	2,14,39,000	2,19,55,000

14. *Land Revenue Adjustments.*—The estimate includes the following assignments from Imperial Revenues :—

	Rs.	Rs.
Contribution for Famine Relief Scheme	60,000	
Grant to the Calcutta Improvement Trust for 60 years	1,50,000	
Recurring assignment in connection with remission of appropriations from Public Works Cess ...	24,93,000	
Recurring grant for sanitation ...	5,00,000	
Contribution to meet charges of Lieutenant-Colonel Sutherland's deputation for serological enquiry	25,000	
Grant of one-half of the salaries of Health Officers in municipalities ...	39,000	
Contribution to meet the cost of Deputy Sanitary Commissioners ...	19,000	
Recurring assignment for the Belgachia Veterinary College ...	30,000	
Contribution from Bihar and Orissa in connection with Fishery Department	11,000	
Recurring grant for Dacca University	45,000	
Recurring grant for popular education	9,25,000	
Recurring grant for aided English secondary schools	1,50,000	
Recurring assignment for remission of certain recoveries from local bodies	26,000	

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	Rs.	Rs.
Assignment in connection with further scientific research for Dr. J. C. Bose for 3 years ...	9,000	
Recurring grant to the Church Missionary Society College, Calcutta	6,000	
Recurring grant for the extension of education among poorer classes of the domiciled community ...	40,000	
Recurring grant for the improvement of female education	30,000	
Recurring grant for the development of the work of the Calcutta University	65,000	
Further recurring grant for education	13,20,000	
Further recurring assignment for education	1,50,000	
Assignment for the cost of forms, etc., for the Bihar and Orissa Government	2,32,000	
Assignment for the cost of forms, etc., for the Assam Administration ...	1,29,000	
Assignment for grant to the Chittagong Port Fund	75,000	
Contribution for recovery of cost of transmission of records by revised procedure introduced by the Court-fees Act	6,000	
Contributions for pensions of title-holders	3,000	
Recurring grant for the amalgamation of the clerical establishment of the Art Section of the Indian Museum with the Calcutta School of Art ...	1,000	
Assignment for traffic registration office, Bhairab Bazar	1,000	
Contribution from Bihar and Orissa towards pay of electric staff ...	8,000	
		65,48,000

The estimate also includes the following assignments from Provincial to Imperial Revenues :—

	Rs.	Rs.
Recurring fixed adjusting entry under the terms of the Settlement	7,28,000	
Recurring grant to Bihar and Orissa Government for grants to Colleges	21,000	
Recurring grant to Bihar and Orissa for law charges formerly paid by this Government	15,000	
		7,64,000

The net assignment from Imperial Revenues is Rs. 65,48,000—7,64,000 =Rs. 57,84,000.

15. *Stamps.*—The budget estimate of the total revenue from "Stamps" for 1913-14 was passed by the Government of India for Rs. 2,14,00,000. The actuals in 1912-13 amounted to Rs. 2,07,43,853, and those of the first ten months of 1913-14 exclusive of receipts under the Calcutta Improvement Act, exceeded the figures of the corresponding period of the preceding year by Rs. 8,35,000. In view of these figures, and allowing for the adjustment of receipts from the sale of unified stamps between the Postal and the Stamp Departments, the revised estimate for 1913-14 has been passed for Rs. 2,16,00,000. Allowing for a progressive increase of 7 lakhs the estimate for 1914-15 has been placed at Rs. 2,23,00,000. The provincial share is one-half, and amounts to Rs. 1,08,00,000 for 1913-14 and Rs. 1,11,50,000 for 1914-15.

16. *Excise.*—The total collections under this head in 1912-13 amounted to Rs. 1,37,59,045 and the estimate for 1913-14 was passed by the Government of India for Rs. 1,38,55,000. The actuals of the first ten months of 1913-14 exceeded those of the corresponding period of last year by Rs. 13,83,000, and the revised estimate for 1913-14 has been passed for

Rs. 1,52,00,000. The increase is chiefly due to higher license fees obtained in the settlement of shops in February and March 1913 and also partly to the increase in the rate of duty on country spirits. There will be no settlement in Calcutta this year, and it is expected that the raising of duty will diminish the receipts from the consumption of liquor: as steps are being taken to check the consumption of opium and charas, it is thought inadvisable to provide for an increase of more than 6 lakhs in the estimate for next year. The budget estimate for 1914-15 has accordingly been placed at Rs 1,58,00,000.

17. *Provincial Rates.*—The collections from Public Works Cess are now being surrendered to District Boards. Under "General Rates" for the management of Private Estates, the estimate of receipts for 1914-15 is Rs. 1,18,000 against Rs. 1,23,000, the revised estimate for 1913-14, and Rs. 1,06,144, the actuals of 1912-13.

18. *Assessed Taxes.*—The receipts from Income-tax for 1913-14 were estimated at Rs. 56,00,000 The actual collections in 1912-13 amounted to Rs. 55,51,652, while those in the first ten months of 1913-14 exceeded the figures of the corresponding period of last year by Rs 9,32,000, and the revised estimate for 1913-14 has been placed at Rs. 65,00,000. The large increase in ten months was due to some of the Coal and Jute Companies and most of the Banks having shown large increases in their profits. In view of the unusual increase in 1913-14 it is not expected that the receipts in 1914-15 will be as high as in 1913-14 and the estimate has been placed at Rs. 61,00,000. The provincial share is one-half and amounts to Rs. 30,50,000.

19. *Forests.*—The budget estimate for 1913-14 was Rs. 14,00,000 against Rs. 16,00,601, the actuals of 1912-13. The actual collections in the first ten months of 1913-14 show an increase of Rs. 1,28,000. The revised estimate for 1913-14 has been placed at Rs. 16,50,000. The increase over the budget is due to sale of timber previously extracted in Buxa, where departmental extraction was given up, and to expansion of the fuel trade in Kurseong and to the receipt of better sale prices than anticipated for timber in Buxa and Chittagong. The estimate for 1914-15 has been passed for Rs. 16,00,000.

20. *Registration.*—The receipts under this head for 1913-14 were estimated at Rs. 19,00,000. The actuals in 1912-13 amounted to Rs. 18,23,161, while the collections in the first nine months of 1913-14 show an increase of Rs. 1,24,000 as compared with those of the corresponding period of the preceding year. In view of these figures the revised estimate for 1913-14 has been placed at Rs. 19,70,000 and allowing for a normal increase of Rs. 80,000 the estimate for 1914-15 has been passed for Rs. 20,50,000.

21. *Interest.*—The estimate of loans, as submitted to the Government of India, provides for a return in the way of interest during 1914-15 of Rs. 4,87,000 as shown below :—

	Rs.
Interest on advances to cultivators, etc.	62,000
" " " Co-operative Credit Societies	3,000
" " drainage and embankment advances ...	14,000
" " loans to landholders	1,74,000
" " " to municipalities and district Boards, etc.	2,20,000
Miscellaneous	14,000
Total ...	4,87,000

22. *Law and Justice—Courts of Law.*—The total collections under this head amounted to Rs. 8,14,901 and the estimate for 1913-14 was passed by the Government of India for Rs. 7,65,000. The actuals of the first nine months of 1913-14 show an increase of Rs. 40,000 over those of the corresponding period of the previous year, and the revised estimate for 1913-14 has been passed for Rs. 8,67,000. The increase is chiefly due to unusually large receipts from Magisterial fines. The estimate for 1914-15 is Rs. 8,95,000.

23. *Jails.*—The actuals in 1912-13 amounted to Rs. 7,03,353 while the receipts in the first nine months of 1913-14 show an increase of Rs. 31,000

over those of the corresponding period of last year chiefly for larger cash sales of manufactured articles. The budget estimate for 1913-14 has accordingly been raised from Rs. 6,59,000 to Rs. 7,26,000 in the revised estimate, and the estimate for 1914-15 has been passed for Rs. 7,23,000.

24. *Police.*—The budget estimate for 1913-14 was Rs. 1,62,000. This has been raised to Rs. 1,65,000 in the revised estimate with reference to the actuals of the first nine months of the current year. The estimate for 1914-15 is Rs. 1,77,000.

25. *Ports and Pilotage.*—The budget estimate for 1913-14 was Rs. 18,00,000. This has been reduced to Rs. 16,40,000 in the revised estimate with reference to the actuals of the first nine months of the year, which show a decrease of Rs. 75,000 as compared with the figures for the corresponding period of last year. The decrease is under "Pilotage receipts" and is due to a reduction in the number of vessels entering and leaving the Calcutta port, and specially to a certain number of vessels entering and leaving the port in ballast, thus affecting the earnings, as such vessels are of a draught much less than that of vessels clearing with cargo. In view of the increase in the "Pilotage receipts" in the past, the estimate for 1914-15 has been passed for Rs. 17,16,000 against Rs. 16,95,556, the actuals of 1911-12, and Rs. 17,52,191, the actuals of 1912-13.

26. *Education.*—The budget estimate for 1913-14 was Rs. 7,51,000. This has been raised to Rs. 8,15,000 in the revised estimates with reference to the actuals of the first nine months of the year. The improvement is mainly due to increases in fees from Government Colleges and Schools—General. The estimate for 1914-15 is Rs. 8,62,000.

27. *Medical.*—The budget estimate for 1913-14 was Rs. 3,76,000 against Rs. 4,26,733, the actuals of 1912-13. The actuals of 1912-13 include Rs. 50,000 credited as a special contribution from the Indian Research Fund Association for carrying out experiments in jungle-clearing in suitable localities. The actual collections in the current year, however, show increases chiefly under "Medical College fees" and under "Medicine sold by Civil Surgeons," and the revised estimate for 1913-14 has been passed for Rs. 4,00,000. The estimate for 1914-15 is Rs. 3,97,000.

28. *Scientific and other Minor Departments.*—The estimate for 1913-14 was Rs. 2,26,000 against Rs. 2,17,931, the actuals of 1912-13. The collections from the sale of quinine and cinchona in the first eight months amounted to Rs. 1,07,000 against Rs. 21,000 in the corresponding period of the previous year. The revised estimate under this sub-head has been raised from Rs. 1,07,000 to Rs. 2,00,000, and the total estimate under this head has been raised from Rs. 2,26,000 to Rs. 3,13,000. The estimate for 1914-15 has been placed at Rs. 2,72,000 as it is not expected that the demand for quinine in that year will be as high as in 1913-14.

29. *Receipts in aid of superannuation.*—The estimate for 1913-14 was Rs. 42,000, but in the revised estimate this has been reduced to Rs. 38,000 in view of the actual collections of the first nine months of the year. The estimate for 1914-15 has been placed at Rs. 39,000.

30. *Stationery and Printing.*—The estimate for 1913-14 was Rs. 1,30,000 against Rs. 1,20,103, the actuals of 1912-13. The actuals of eight months of 1913-14, however, show an increase of Rs. 6,000 over those of the corresponding period of last year, and the revised estimate for 1913-14 has been placed at Rs. 1,25,000. The estimate for 1914-15 is Rs. 1,20,000.

31. *Miscellaneous.*—The estimate under this head for 1913-14 was Rs. 5,91,000 against Rs. 7,72,339, the actuals of 1912-13, which included very heavy receipts (Rs. 6,38,026) from "Unclaimed deposits." These deposits, which are likely to lapse at the close of the year, may amount to Rs. 5,35,000, and the total revised estimate under this head has been placed at Rs. 6,78,000 as the sale-proceeds of tents from Government House stock at Dacca realized Rs. 5,634, and the sale of land to the railway at Chittagong brought in Rs. 11,540. The estimate for 1914-15 has been passed for Rs. 5,92,000 as the estimate under "Unclaimed deposits" has been placed at Rs. 4,80,000.

32. *Irrigation—Major Works (Direct Receipts).*—The estimate for 1913-14 was Rs. 2,80,000 against Rs. 2,73,918, the actuals of 1912-13. The actual collections in the first eight months of 1913-14 show a decrease of

Rs. 8,000, chiefly owing to the silting up of the Hijili Tidal Canal, which reduced the navigation receipts. The water-rates in the Midnapore Canal are also expected to fall short owing to reduction in the irrigated area, and the revised estimate has been placed at Rs. 2,50,000. An increase in the irrigated area in the Midnapore Canal is expected in 1914-15, and the estimate has been passed for Rs. 2,67,000. The provincial share is one-half and amounts to Rs. 1,25,000 and Rs. 1,33,000 in 1913-14 and 1914-15, respectively.

33. *Irrigation—Minor Works and Navigation in charge of the Public Works Department.*—The estimate for 1913-14 was Rs. 6.85,000 against Rs. 6,40,210, the actuals of 1912-13. The actual collections in the first nine months of 1913-14 show a decrease of Rs. 74,000 as compared with the figures for the corresponding period of 1912-13 chiefly in the Madaripore Bheel route on account of concessions granted to steamer companies and in the Calcutta and Eastern Canals owing to the deficiency in the rice and jute traffic. The revised estimate has been reduced to Rs. 5,66,000. Receipts are expected on account of the levy of tolls on the Magrahat drainage from 1914-15, and the estimate has been passed for Rs. 6,10,000. The provincial share is one-half and amounts to Rs. 2,83,000 for 1913-14 and Rs. 3,05,000 for 1914-15.

34. *Civil Works in charge of the Public Works Department.*—The budget estimate for 1913-14 was Rs. 3,69,000 against Rs. 3,85,036, the actuals of 1912-13. The actual receipts in the first nine months of 1913-14 show an increase of Rs. 35,000 over those of the corresponding period of last year, and the revised estimate for 1913-14 has been placed at Rs. 4,14,000. The increase is due to sale-proceeds of certain buildings. Excluding the special receipts in 1913-14 the estimate for 1914-15 has been passed for Rs. 3,85,000, the actuals of 1912-13.

EXPENDITURE.

35. *Refunds and Drawbacks.*—The total provincial expenditure in 1914-15 is estimated at Rs. 1,35,000 against Rs. 1,41,000, the budget estimate for 1913-14, and Rs. 1,44,035, the actuals of 1912-13. The estimates under this head are based, as usual, on the average actuals of the previous three years, excluding special payments. The actuals of 1910-11 included a special payment of Rs. 22,500 and those of 1911-12 a payment of Rs. 6,500 under "Land Revenue." The actuals of 1912-13 also included special payments of Rs. 6,000 and Rs. 8,000 under "Stamps." The revised estimate for the current year has been placed at Rs. 1,38,000.

36. *Assignments and Compensations.*—The estimate for 1913-14 was Rs. 33,000. The revised estimate has, however, been raised to Rs. 45,000 with reference to the actuals of the first nine months against Rs. 50,905, the actuals of 1912-13. The estimate for 1914-15 is Rs. 43,000. The variations are due to payment of fluctuating *malikana*.

37. *Land Revenue.*—The total provincial expenditure for 1914-15 is estimated at Rs. 35,33,000 against Rs. 32,64,000, the revised, and Rs. 33,48,000, the budget estimate, for 1913-14 as shown below :—

	1913-14.		1914-15.
	Budget.	Revised.	Budget.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
(1) Charges of District Administration ...	26,50,000	26,09,000	27,01,000
(2) Charges on account of Land Revenue collections	10,000	13,000	10,000
(3) Management of Government Estates ...	4,72,000	4,41,000	5,68,000
(4) Survey and Settlement ...	1,82,000	1,75,000	2,13,000
(5) Land Records ...	33,000	26,000	41,000
(6) Charges on account of fishery collection ...	1,000	.....	.....
Total ...	33,48,000	32,64,000	35,33,000

[*Sir William Duke.*]

Under (1) provision has been made for an Additional District Magistrate of the 24-Parganas and for the consequent Additional Joint-Magistrate, for revision of the Kanungo establishment, for the purchase of a launch for the District Officer, Faridpur, for the purchase of iron safes for district and sub-divisional treasuries, larger provision for diet and travelling allowance to witnesses, law charges, and remuneration to copyists. The estimate under (3) includes special additional grants of Rs. 50,000 for the improvement of Government Estates and Rs. 67,000 for the reclamation of Sundarbans in the district of Bakarganj. The estimate under (4) amounts to Rs. 2,13,000, and includes Rs. 43,000 for the new survey school at Comilla. The variations under (5) are due to the debit of cost of the Director of Land Records to the different Imperial settlement operations. The estimate for 1914-15 includes Rs. 5,000 for the reorganization of his office.

38. *Stamps.*—The sanctioned estimate for 1913-14 was Rs. 7,25,000, which has been raised to Rs. 7,27,000 in the revised owing to the payment of heavier charges for the sale of general stamps against savings in the grant for stamp paper. The budget for 1914-15 is Rs. 7,52,000 and follows the revised, but provides for larger issue of stamp paper from Central Stores.

39. *Excise.*—The total expenditure for 1913-14 was originally estimated at Rs. 6,69,000, but in the revised estimate this has been reduced to Rs. 6,29,000 owing to the lapse of the lump provision of Rs. 50,000 for the reorganization of the department. The budget for 1914-15 is Rs. 8,77,000, and includes Rs. 1,50,000 for the reorganization, Rs. 50,000 for the construction of boats and launches and Rs. 50,000 for the construction of quarters.

40. *Provincial Rates.*—The cost of collections of the cesses, and the valuation and revaluation charges will in the first instance be incurred by the District Officers, but ultimately recovered from District Boards while transferring the cesses to those bodies so that nothing will fall on the general revenues.

41. *Assessed Taxes.*—The budget grant for 1913-14 is Rs. 1,57,000, but Rs. 1,51,000 has been adopted as the estimate for 1914-15. The decrease is due to the amalgamation of the establishment of the Board of Revenue with the Civil Secretariat.

42. *Forests.*—The sanctioned estimate for 1913-14 was Rs. 6,76,000, but in the revised estimate this has been reduced to Rs. 6,40,000, with reference to the actuals of the first nine months of the year. The decrease is due to the full complement of officers and executive establishment not being employed. The budget for 1914-15 amounts to Rs. 7,27,000, and includes the following items besides small items mentioned in paragraph 10 above :—

	Rs.
Reconstruction of Divisional Officer's bungalow at Kalimpong	8,000
Purchase of two elephants for the Chittagong Hill Tracts Division	6,000
Construction of four accommodation boats and two water-boats for the Sundarbans	11,600
Provision for new boilers for the launches *Hawk* and *Helen Grey* of the Sundarbans Division	10,500
Reconstruction of Divisional Officer's bungalow at Buxa Duars	8,000

43. *Registration.*—The estimate for 1913-14 is Rs. 11,16,000, but in the revised this has been reduced to Rs. 11,01,000 owing to the delay in the reorganization of the office establishment of the District Sub-Registrars. The budget for 1914-15 is Rs. 11,99,000 and includes the following items :—

	Rs.
Registrar of Joint Stock Companies and his office	21,858
Lump provision for increasing the leave reserve	19,900
Lump provision for increase of salary of District Sub-Registrars	8,100

[*Sir William Duke.*]

	Rs.
Lump provision for revision of the cadre of Sub-Registrars	4,500
Provision for revision of the ministerial establishments in the head-quarters offices	45,610
Increased grant for record racks ...	2,000
Grant for the purchase of type-writers ...	3,000
Provision for cost of remitting salaries, etc., in Western Bengal districts	3,000

44. *Interest on Ordinary Debt.*—This is interest payable from the Provincial Revenues to the Imperial Government on the amount advanced by the latter to the Provincial Government for loans to cultivators, under the Agriculturists' Loans and Land Improvements Loans Acts, for advances to Co-operative Societies, for advances on drainage and embankment schemes, for loans to notabilities and to municipalities and other public corporations (exclu ling Presidency Corporations).

45. *General Administration.*—The estimate for 1913-14 was Rs. 23,02,000, but in the revised estimate this has been raised to Rs. 24,54,000. The increase is chiefly for larger expenditure on His Excellency's tour, for deputation of several special officers in the Civil Secretariat, for the purchase of books and furniture for the Council Library and Legislative Department and larger expenditure on Tour charges and contingencies of the members of the Executive Council. The estimate for 1914-15 amounts to Rs. 23,53,000, and includes Rs. 19,627 for the maintenance and improvements of the railway saloon carriages, larger grant for allowances and contingencies of the offices of the Private Secretary to Governor and the Military Secretary to Governor according to requirements, Rs. 5,000 for allowances to reporters and Rs. 5,000 for the purchase of books for the Council Library.

46. *Law and Justice—Courts of Law.*—The budget estimate for 1913-14 was Rs. 96,10,000, but the revised estimate has been raised to Rs. 99,53,000 with reference to the actual charges of the first nine months of the year, which were chiefly enhanced by the expenditure on law charges and fees to counsel in connection with the trial of Damodar Deara suit in Burdwan and the Barisal conspiracy case and debit of grain compensation charges by transfer from "32—Miscellaneous." The estimate for 1914-15 is Rs. 99,53,000 and includes the following provisions :—

	Rs.
An Additional Judge for High Court ...	48,000
Establishment for the Additional Judge, High Court	5,148
New Inspector of Judicial offices	18,000
Three short-hand writers in the High Court ...	4,500
Rewiring the electric installation of High Court ...	10,000
Lump provision for the preservation of memorial portraits	2,000
Additional grant for copying special appeals and pleadings	5,000
Additional grant for fees to pleaders in criminal cases	70,000
Additional establishment for the new Police Courts, Calcutta	6,048
Reorganization of the Calcutta Small Cause Court ...	10,075
Lump provision for increase of pay of the last grade of Munsifs	21,000
Increased provision for the appointment of additional Sub-Deputy Collectors in connection with the Chaukidari Circle System	25,000
Establishment of a court and detention house for juvenile offenders	17,400

47. *Jails.*—The estimate for 1913-14 is Rs. 20,79,000, but in the revised estimate this has been raised to Rs. 22,76,000 with reference to the actuals of the first nine months of the year. The increase is mainly due to larger dieting charges and partly also to larger purchase of raw materials in the Presidency Jail at Alipore. The estimate for 1914-15 is Rs. 20,76,000. It

includes smaller provision for purchase of raw materials, but provides Rs. 40,000 for the revision of warders' service and Rs. 10,000 for new machinery for the Dacca Central Jail.

48. *Police.*—The following table shows the figures under this head :—

HEADS.	Actuals, 1912-13.	1913-14.		Estimate, 1914-15.
		Budget.	Revised.	
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Presidency Police ...	14,49,110	16,60,000	16,15,000	17,23,000
Superintendence ...	2,22,171	2,25,000	2,69,000	2,62,000
Criminal Investigation Department ...	4,06,163	3,83,000	4,30,000	4,95,000
District Executive Force	56,96,249	67,22,000	64,74,000	80,74,000
Village Police ...	19,874	23,000	16,000	30,000
Special ,, ...	3,01,053	2,51,000	2,64,000	2,42,000
Railway ,, ...	3,01,972	3,16,000	3,36,000	3,19,000
Cattle-pounds ...	134	300	200	250
Refunds	3,133	1,700	3,800	2,750
Lump deduction ...	.....	.....	.....	— 2,50,000
Total ...	83,99,859	95,82,000	94,08,000	1,08,98,000

In view of the actuals of the first nine months of 1913-14, the revised estimate has been placed at Rs. 94,08,000. The decrease is due to smaller expenditure on Presidency Police and to partial utilization of lump provisions for Police reforms and River Police reorganization. The estimate for 1914-15 is Rs. 1,08,98,000. It includes the following charges :—

		Rs.
Provision for raising the reserve of the Calcutta Police to its authorized strength ...		65,000
Additional Police force for Criminal Investigation Department and Special Branch, Calcutta ...		12,258
Conveyance allowance of Deputy Commissioners of Police, Calcutta		5,625
Additional Sub-Inspectors for Entally and Chitpur thanas		5,280
Additional Police staff for decentralization of the Police Court, Lal Bazar		12,680
Additional staff, etc., for the Calcutta Police Training School		33,155
Additional Police staff to guard the Government Dockyard, Kidderpore		6,000
Additional Police staff to regulate traffic at the landing stages of the Port Commissioners' ferry service (total cost)		9,350
Provision for a steam-cutter and crew for the River Police, Calcutta (total cost)		12,805
Revision of the superior Police cadre ...		33,600
Reorganization of the subordinate Police in the Eastern Bengal districts.	Recurring ...	91,470
	Non-recurring	3,13,385

[*Sir William Duke.*]

		Rs.
Regrading of Sub-Inspectors and Head-constables in Eastern Bengal districts		37,800
Lump provision for increase of pay and privileges of Head-constables and Constables ...		4,75,000
Allowances to Police officers in certain portions of Jalpaiguri and Darjeeling on account of expenses of living and other disadvantages ...		14,721
Purchase of Charitable Dispensary at Mymensingh for accommodation of Police		60,000
Reorganization of the River Police in the Eastern Bengal districts.	Recurring ...	71,512
	Non-recurring	4,50,265
Extra cost in connection with the division of the East Indian Railway jurisdiction between Bengal and Bihar		6,278
Strengthening of the armed police reserve ...		13,934
Establishment of armed posts at Madaripur ...		12,168
Increase of pay of Sergeants		9,000
Increase of cadre of Deputy Superintendents ...		17,100
Strengthening of head-quarters treasury guards ...		6,386
Armed posts in the Dacca Division		27,720
Raising the conveyance allowance of subordinate police officers		42,900
Strengthening of the armed police detachments in subdivisions of Western Bengal		20,220
Reorganization of the Military Police		79,197
Establishment of new police-stations at Asansol ...		23,144
Supply of mosquito nets		17,600
Ditto iron cots		10,000
Station boat scheme		12,878
Settling of *Karwal nuts* of the Rajshahi Division under the Criminal Tribes Act		26,600
Increase of pay of dafadars		18,314
Purchase of elephants		5,000
Supply of boxes to police officers for safe custody of case diaries		4,527
Provision for completion of launch for the Deputy Inspector-General of Police, Dacca		18,135
Construction of a launch for the Assistant Superintendent of Police, Munshiganj ...		38,938
Alterations to the steam-launch *Warden* ...		8,090
Temporary force for the Criminal Intelligence Branch		75,851
Appointment of a fourth Range Deputy Inspector-General		25,600

49. *Ports and Pilotage.*—The estimate for 1913-14 was Rs. 13,74,000, but in the revised estimate this has been raised to Rs. 14,36,000 for the adjustment under this head of the grant of Rs. 1,50,000 made to the Chittagong Port, which was estimated under Civil Works in charge of civil officers. Against this addition a large reduction in expenditure is expected in the grant under "Pilotage establishment" owing to the decline in pilotage receipts. The estimate for 1914-15 amounts to Rs. 15,39,000, and includes larger grant for pilotage establishment due to anticipated trade activity as well as the payment of Rs. 1,50,000 to the Chittagong Port Fund.

[*Sir William Duke.*]

50. *Education.*—The following table shows the charges under this head since 1909-10 :—

Heads.	Actuals.				1913-14.		1914-15.
	1909-10	1910-11.	1911-12.	1912-13.	Budget.	Revised.	Budget.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
University ...	1,03,000	96,000	66,028	5,15,000	1,18,500	1,18,500	1,20,000
Direction ...	1,18,000	1,42,000	2,17,189	1,78,080	1,40,000	1,44,000	1,67,000
Inspection ...	7,12,000	7,31,000	8,04,480	7,82,598	8,12,000	7,79,000	7,89,000
Government Colleges —General ...	6,25,000	6,95,000	8,17,976	8,50,209	8,75,000	8,56,000	8,99,000
Government Colleges —Professional ...	3,54,000	3,17,000	3,35,128	4,00,575	3,92,500	3,98,000	3,72,000
Government Schools —General ...	12,61,000	12,84,000	14,38,548	19,81,325	15,47,000	22,56,000	11,73,000
Government Schools —Special ...	5,65,000	5,76,000	5,75,620	5,98,433	7,72,000	6,01,000	6,88,000
Grants-in-aid ...	10,72,000	11,81,000	14,28,094	17,24,594	1[illegible],20,000	22,80,000	15,06,000
Scholarships ...	1,71,000	1,91,000	2,19,049	2,24,400	2,34,000	2,41,000	2,44,000
Miscellaneous ...	1,15,000	1,18,000	2,17,307	1,20,518	1,65,000	7,37,000	1,40,000
Refunds ...	4,000	3,000	2,454	1,097	2,500	2,500	2,000
Lump provision for non-recurring expenditure ...	...		...	...	7,45,000	...	5,11,000
Lump provision for improving popular education ...	...	...	...	...	9,25,000	97,000	11,72,000
Lump provision for regrant of savings of 1912-13 ...	...	...	...	...	3,32,000		
Lump provision for secondary education ...	...	...	...	...	1,50,000	...	1,28,000
Lump provision for regrant of savings of 1912-13 ...	...	...	...	...	46,000		
Lump provision for female education	...	...	...	...	...	...	30,000
Lump provision for hostels outside Calcutta and Dacca	...	...	...	...	2,40,000	...	2,17,000
Lump provision for hostels in Calcutta	...	...	...	...	8,50,000	...	8,70,000
Expenditure from the non-recurring assignment of 75 lakhs ...	...	...	...	...	24,80,000	...	30,00,000
Expenditure of the recurring grant ...	...	...	...	...	13,20,000	...	13,20,000
Lump provision for regrant of savings of above grant for 1913-14 ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12,00,000
Further recurring grant ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,50,000
Dacca University and hostels (non-recurring) ...	...	...	...	...	3,00,000	...	3,00,000
Ditto (recurring)	...	...	...	...	...	...	45,000
Lump deduction ...	...	...	...	...	—3,78,500	...	—5,00,000
Total ...	51,00,000	53,34,000	61,21,873	73,76,829	1,34,88,000	85,10,000	1,45,43,000

The estimate for 1913-14 was Rs. 1,34,88,000, but in the revised estimate this has been reduced to Rs. 85,10,000 with reference to the actuals of the first nine months of the year. The decrease is chiefly due to partial utilization of the Imperial grants and the stoppage of the equilibrium grant on the surrender of the Public Works Cess to the District Boards and to the transfer of the provision of Rs. 50,000 for the Comilla Survey School to the head "3—Land Revenue." The budget for 1914-15 includes the following items :—

	Rs.
Assistant Director of Public Instruction for Muhammadan Education	26,720
Appointment of a whole-time Professor of Geology	4,200

[*Sir William Duke.*]

	Rs.
Provision for the creation of 3 additional Provincial Educational Service appointments ...	10,200
Provision for revision of the establishment of the Director of Public Instruction	11,900
Personal allowances of 2 Inspectors of Schools ...	4,200
Increase of pay of existing maulvis and appointment of additional maulvis	2,680
Personal and other allowances to heads of colleges	10,000

51. *Medical.*—The budget grant for 1913-14 was Rs. 41,01,000. This has been reduced to Rs. 29,00,000 in the revised estimate with reference to the actuals of the first nine months of the year. The decrease is chiefly due to savings to the extent of 10 lakhs in the grant for expenditure on sanitation, Rs. 80,000 in the lump grant for medical relief, Rs. 50,000 for jungle-clearing, one lakh for the School of Tropical Medicine and to non-utilization of the provision for the purchase of quinine by the Sanitary Commissioner for sale in the Eastern Bengal districts. The estimate for 1914-15 is Rs. 47,81,000, and includes the following items :—

	Rs.
Provision for the revision of Civil Surgeons' offices	2,000
Teaching allowances to the three Resident Surgeons and Physicians, Medical College Hospital	7,200
Provision for an Obstetric Registrar, Medical College Hospital	1,200
Increased grant for medical stores, Medical College Hospital	15,000
Increase of staff allowances of the Military Assistant Surgeons attached to the General Hospital	2,000
Provision for jungle-clearing	50,000
Improvement of nursing arrangements in mufassal hospitals	25,000
Lump grant for the School of Tropical Medicine for construction (not utilized in 1913-14) ...	1,00,000
Lump grant for equipment for the School of Tropical Medicine	50,000
Lump grant for medical relief, being the unspent balance of 1913-14	80,000
Lump grant for non-recurring expenditure on sanitation	18,82,772
Lump grant for recurring expenditure ...	9,50,000
Total	31,65,172
Lump deduction for probable savings ...	10,00,000
	21,65,172

Hitherto the sanitary grants have been shown partly under "Medical" and partly under "Civil Works"; this year for convenience they have all been shown under this head.

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The grants for Presidency Hospitals are shown below :—

	Salaries.	Establishment.	Allowances.	Clothing and bedding.	Diet.	Other supplies.	Contingencies.	Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Medical College Hospital	59,190	21,080	200	86,000		94,000	1,01,530	3,62,000
General Hospital ...	68,173	9,528	1,360	77,000		33,500	62,439	2,52,000
Campbell Hospital ...	13,560	26,608	8,300	36,000		15,500	43,032	1,43,000
Albert Victor Asylum for Lepers ...	7,200	3,552	180	17,000		1,200	7,868	37,000

52. *Political.*—The estimate for 1914-15 is Rs. 29,000, which is also the budget grant for 1913-14, against Rs. 30,000, the revised estimate for the current year. The increase in the current year is due to larger payments for Durbar presents owing to the installation of the new Maharaja of Cooch Behar.

53. *Scientific and other Minor Departments.*—The total charges under this head for 1913-14 were originally estimated at Rs. 17,13,000, but in the revised estimate this has been reduced to Rs. 15,32,000. The decrease is chiefly due to savings in expenditure from the Imperial grant for agriculture. Rupees 30,000 was transferred to the Forest Department and the balance was not fully spent. Savings were also effected in the grants for the Agricultural Department, Botanic Gardens and Fishery Department. The estimate for 1914-15 is Rs. 17,30,000, and includes the following provisions :—

	Rs.
For non-recurring improvements of the Agricultural Department	1,00,000
Regrant of the unspent balance of the Imperial grant for Agricultural Department	52,000
Regrant of the unspent balance of the Imperial grant for Cinchona Department	29,975
One Deputy Director of Agriculture	6,000
Appointment of two supervisors	4,800
Provision for fieldmen-demonstrators	21,060
Ditto for overseers and servants for Rangpur Dairy Farm	3,876
Provision for purchase and feed of cattle for Rangpur Dairy Farm	17,000
Provision for implements and machinery for Rangpur Dairy Farm	14,000
Provision for petty construction and reclamation, etc., of Rangpur Dairy Farm	30,800
Provision for an additional Inspector of Factories	4,800
Provision for registration of steamer-borne trade at Bhairab Bazar in Mymensingh	1,200
Provision for contribution to the Eastern Bengal State Railway for the construction of a bungalow for the Assistant Superintendent of Emigration at Goalundo	3,000

54. *Superannuation.*—The estimate for 1913-14 is Rs. 30,22,000, but in the revised this has been raised to Rs. 31,09,000, owing chiefly to the provision for commuted value of pensions to the extent of Rs. 75,000. The budge'

for 1914-15 amounts to Rs. 32,31,000 as the charges under this head tend to rise year after year owing to increase in the number of pensioners.

55. *Stationery and Printing.*—The following table shows the charges under this head :—

HEADS.	Actuals. 1912-13.	Budget estimate, 1913-14.	Revised estimate, 1913-14.	Budget estimate, 1914-15.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Forms Department at the Presidency ...	52,002	59,000	57,000	71,000
Stationery purchased in this country ..	23,130	25,000	24,000	25,000
Government presses ...	6,24,717	6,24,000	6,10,000	6,84,000
Printing at private presses	1,222	4,000	2,000	2,000
Stationery supplied from Central Stores ...	6,32,102	6,46,000	8,13,000	6,60,000
Refunds	1,256	2,000	3,000	2,000
Total ...	13,34,429	13,60,000	15,39,000	14,44,000

The increased provision under Forms Department is for the payment of allowances to assistants of that office on the introduction of jail hours on its transfer to the jail. The increase under "Government presses" is due to larger provision for plant, furniture and contingencies and a lump provision for additional establishment required for the removal of a portion of the press from the Writers' Buildings to Koila Ghât Street.

56. *Miscellaneous.*—The budget estimate for 1913-14 was Rs. 9,53,000, but in the revised estimate this has been reduced to Rs. 7,16,000. The reduction is chiefly due to the adjustment, under appropriate heads, of the expenditure on grain compensation allowance and the charges sanctioned by His Excellency from the provision for petty grants, and to the reappropriation of the reserve provision of Rs. 1,50,000, in order to meet expenditure under other heads. Against these transfers additional charges were incurred for the District Administration and the Calcutta Port Facilities Committee and the expenditure on gratuitous relief in flooded areas, for which there were no provisions in the budget. Special payments were also made to the Prisoners' Aid Society for acquisition of land, to the "Refuge" for regrant of the undrawn grant for 1912-13, to the Calcutta Orphanage and the Anath Bhandar for the purchase of buildings. The estimate for 1914-15 is Rs. 10,81,000, and includes a lump provision of Rs. 4,00,000 for the payment of grain compensation allowance for all departments : Rs. 1,00,000 to be placed at the disposal of His Excellency for petty grants, Rs. 1,50,000 for general reserve for unforeseen requirements, Rs. 20,000 for District Administration Committee, Rs. 3,000 for the Port Facilities Committee, Rs. 50,000 for gratuitous relief in the flooded area and Rs. 26,000 being the amount recently sanctioned by the Government of India on account of recoveries from local bodies which will be remitted, it being assumed for estimate purposes that the increase will result in an increase of expenditure, though in most cases there will actually be a reduction in revenue. A corresponding assignment has been given from the Imperial Revenues for the purpose.

57. *Irrigation—Major Works (Working Expenses).*—The estimate for 1913-14 amounting to Rs. 2,40,000 has been raised to Rs. 3,06,000 in the revised estimate for the inclusion of the charges for silt-clearance, Range II and Gewankhally supply channel of the Hijili Tidal Canal. The estimate for 1914-15 has been passed for Rs. 2,96,000, and includes Rs. 45,000 for silt-clearance in the main canal and supply channel of the Hijili Tidal Canal and also to some special repairs to the distributaries of the Midnapore Canal. The provincial share is one-half and amounts to Rs. 1,53,000 for 1913-14 and Rs. 1,48,000 for 1914-15.

[*Sir William Duke.*]

58. *Irrigation—Minor Works and Navigation in charge of the Public Works Department.*—The actual charges in 1912-13 amounted to Rs. 15,36,307 and the estimate for 1913-14 was Rs. 18,66,000. Additional grants have been sanctioned during the year for repairs to embankments damaged by floods, and silt-clearance of the Protapkhally khal in the district of Midnapore, and the revised estimate for 1913-14 has been passed for Rs. 19,94,000. The estimate for 1914-15 amounts to Rs. 22,38,000, and includes the following special provisions :—

	Rs.
Clearing the bed of the Saraswati river in connection with the Rajapur drainage works ...	54,000
Works in connection with the Jessore Drainage Division	20,000
Dredging the entrance of the Bhagirathi and Gorai rivers	16,000
Construction of a new sluice below Jujuti in connection with the Eden Canal	35,000
Increased provision for maintenance and repairs of the Magrahat drainage scheme	20,000
Flood damage repairs	2,12,000
Dredging the Angeria creek	1,70,000
Dredging the Attarabanka shoal	30,000
Dredging the Puttimari channel	80,000
Permanent protection of the Hooghly left embankment at Diamond Harbour	89,000
Purchase of spare parts of the dredger *Foyers* for repairs to damage done by serious accidents	21,000

The provincial share is one-half and amounts to Rs. 9,97,000 for 1913-14 and Rs. 11,19,000 for 1914-15.

59. *Minor Works and Navigation in charge of the Civil Department.*—The estimate for 1914-15 is Rs. 8,000 against Rs. 3,000, the budget grant for 1913-14. The estimate for 1914-15 includes Rs. 5,000 for grant-in-aid for bandalling the Ganges near Rampur Boalia.

60. *Civil Works in charge of the Public Works Department.*—The estimate of expenditure for 1914-15 has been placed at Rs. 89,59,000, including Rs. 6,40,000 for discretionary grants, out of 12 lakhs sanctioned by the Government of India in 1913. The following table shows budget grants for 1913-14 and 1914-15 with the revised estimate for 1913-14 :—

	1913-14.		1914-15.
	Budget.	Revised.	Budget.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Original works ...	43,93,317	47,81,000	55,59,000
Repairs	18,92,600	19,57,000	21,83,000
Establishment ...	11,07,083	10,20,000	11,47,000
Tools and plant ...	37,000	39,000	70,000
Stock and suspense	...	3,000	...
Total ...	74,30,000	78,00,000	89,59,000

The grant for next year on original works is chiefly distributed thus :—

	Rs.
Residences—	
Public Works Department	60,000
Civil	1,00,000
Medical	50,000
Judicial	50,000
Police	3,00,000
Deputy Collectors	25,000

[*Sir William Duke.*]

	Rs.
Residences—*concld.*	
Sanitation—House for Deputy Sanitary Commissioner, Rajshahi	21,300
Offices—	
Civil	2,50,000
Judicial	1,50,000
Excise warehouses	50,000
Police—	
Dullunda Training School	1,00,000
Lal Bazar	50,000
Jails	75,000
Registration	75,000
Public Works Department	50,000
Medical School of Tropical Medicine	3,00,000
Roads	10,00,000
Education—Drainage of Victoria School, Kurseong ...	58,500

61. *Civil Works in charge of the Civil Department.*—The estimate for 1913-14 was Rs. 30,20,000, but in the revised estimate this has been reduced to Rs. 28,30,000, partly owing to the transfer of Rs. 1,50,000 from the grant to the Chittagong Port to the head "21—Ports and Pilotage" and to the non-utilization of the full allotment for works of sanitary improvement. The estimate for 1914-15 amounts to Rs. 20,77,000 and includes the following :—

	Rs.
Grant to the Calcutta Improvement Trust ...	11,50,000
Special grants for feeder roads	50,000
Augmentation grant	5,86,000
Grant for the improvement of roads in Government estates	67,618
Special grants at the disposal of the Divisional Commissioners	1,00,000
Ditto District Magistrates ...	52,000
Lump provision for pay of sub-overseers in connection with rural water-supply	14,000

No provision has been made under this head for grants for works of sanitary improvement which will in future be provided for wholly under Medical Department. The following are the principal items sanctioned or earmarked for the works of sanitary improvement in the year 1913-14 :—

	Rs.
Subsidy to the Dacca Municipality for expenditure on conservancy	7,500
Cost of establishment to be maintained during 1913-14 for anti-malarial operations in Western Duars	7,000
Cost of staff of Dr. Bentley's field laboratory for 1913-14	2,700
Construction of quarters for the cooly establishment attached to the Animal Vaccination Depôt, Entally, and small alterations to the depôt ...	9,930
Chittagong Municipality for jungle-clearing ...	750
Bhatpara drainage	10,000
Howrah "	1,00,000
Sanitary improvement in the town of Chittagong	20,000
Kalimpong water-supply	7,529
Sukeapukri "	1,788
Sanitary arrangements in connection with the Lower Ganges Bridge	8,508

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	Rs.
Improvement of water-supply to the "Lower Homes," Kalimpong	5,000
Bhadreswar drainage	17,500
Anti-malarial measures	14,000
Kurigram drainage	2,000
Dacca Municipality for conservancy arrangements in connection with the concentration of troops	9,538
Dacca Municipality for water-supply in connection with the concentration of troops	1,548
Cost of experiments in connection with Calcutta sewage under Sanitary Commissioner ...	50,000
Tangail drainage	9,616
Improvement of water-supply in the Harirampur Thana, Dacca	15,400
Ditto in Goalundo Subdivision... ...	6,000
Hooghly-Chinsurah water-works	50,000
Burdwan Municipality for extension of water-supply	33,000
Grants to District Boards for improvement of rural water-supply	42,917
Uttarpara water-supply	40,300
Asansol	62,000
Narayanganj	1,00,000
Chittagong	2,00,000
Sanitary improvement, Gaibandha	8,000
Calcutta Corporation for fringe area drainage ...	42,354
Temporary draftsmen and surveyors in the Sanitary Engineer's Office	30,000
Satkhira Municipality and water-supply ...	26,000

Bengal Provincial Revenue.

Receipts.	Actuals. 1910-11.	Actuals. 1911-12.	Actuals. 1912-13.	1913-14. Sanctioned estimate.	1913-14. Revised estimate.	191 Bu esti
1	2	3	4	5	6	
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Opening balance ..	*	*	1,66,25,000	2,83,23,000	3,13,30,000	3,04,
Principal Heads of Revenue—						
I—Land Revenue { Proper ...	1,57,35,500	1,57,27,171	1,60,64,024	1,58,49,000	1,57,00,000	1,61
I—Land Revenue { Adjustments ...	*	*	+1,46,73,885	+56,43,000	+57,39,000	+57
IV—Stamps	96,93,000	1,00,56,288	1,03,71,927	1,07,00,000	1,08,00,000	1,11
V—Excise	62,45,000	1,00,41,150	1,37,59,045	1,38,55,000	1,52,00,000	1,58
VI—Provincial Rates	32,59,000	31,74,872	32,02,152	90,000	1,23,000	1
(VII—Assessed Taxes	25,78,000	26,73,534	27,75,826	28,00,000	32,50,000	30
IX—Forests	7,02,000	13,87,465	16,00,601	14,00,000	16,50,000	16
X—Registration	16,31,000	17,33,694	18,23,161	19,00,000	19,70,000	20
Total ...	3,98,93,500	4,47,94,174	6,42,70,621	5,22,37,000	5,44,32,000	5,57
XII—Interest	6,31,000	5,22,205	5,00,713	4,85,000	4,80,000	4
Receipts by Civil Department—						
XVI—Law and Justice—						
Courts of Law	7,65,000	7,60,777	8,14,901	7,65,000	8,67,000	8
Jails	6,39,000	8,31,424	7,03,353	6,59,000	7,26,000	7
XVII—Police	2,03,000	1,87,675	2,39,082	1,62,000	1,65,000	1
XVIII—Ports and Pilotage ...	16,07,000	16,95,566	17,52,191	18,00,000	16,40,000	17
XIX—Education	6,78,000	7,33,248	7,77,676	7,51,000	8,15,000	8
XX—Medical	3,67,000	3,62,976	4,26,733	3,76,000	4,00,000	3
XXI—Scientific and other Minor Departments	3,24,000	2,37,053	2,17,931	2,26,000	3,13,000	2
Total ...	45,83,000	48,08,709	49,31,867	47,39,000	49,26,000	50
Miscellaneous—						
XXII—Receipts in aid of Superannuation	36,000	43,158	48,210	42,000	38,000	
XXIII—Stationery and Printing ...	1,40,000	1,30,425	1,20,103	1,30,000	1,25,000	1
XXV—Miscellaneous	6,14,000	6,35,371	7,72,339	5,91,000	6,78,000	5
Total ...	7,90,000	8,08,954	9,40,652	7,63,000	8,41,000	7
Irrigation—						
XXIX—Major Works (direct receipts)	2,63,000	1,39,063	1,36,959	1,40,000	1,25,000	1
XXX—Minor Works and Navigation—						
By Public Works Department	5,53,000	3,36,000	3,20,105	3,42,000	2,83,000	3
By Civil Department ...	55,000	25,015	24,925	26,000	25,000	
Total ...	8,71,000	5,00,078	4,81,989	5,08,000	4,33,000	4
Buildings and Roads—						
XXXI—Civil Works—						
By Public Works Department	3,71,000	4,62,000	3,85,036	3,69,000	4,14,000	3,
By Civil Department ...	1,53,000	1,55,263	1,42,523	1,65,000	1,44,000	1,
Total ...	5,24,000	6,17,263	5,27,559	5,24,000	5,58,000	5,
Total Receipts ...	4,72,92,500	5,20,51,383	7,76,53,401	5,92,56,000	6,16,70,000	6,39
Grand Total ...	.....	.....	8,82,78,401	8,75,79,000	9,30,00,000	9,34,

... opening balance and Land Revenue adjustments for new Bengal cannot be worked out.

[Sir William Duke.]

Bengal Provincial Expenditure.

Expenditure.	Actuals. 1910-11.	Actuals. 1911-12.	Actuals. 1912-13.	1913-14. Sanctioned estimate.	1913-14. Revised estimate.	1914-15. Budget estimate.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Direct demand on the Revenues—						
1. Refunds and drawbacks	1,59,000	1,55,124	1,44,035	1,41,000	1,38,000	1,35,000
2. Assignments and Compensations	36,000	37,647	50,905	33,000	45,000	43,000
3. Land Revenue	29,17,000	35,09,257	32,36,128	33,48,000	32,64,000	35,33,000
6 Stamps	3,04,000	3,22,507	3,53,685	3,62,000	3,63,000	3,76,000
7. Excise	2,96,000	4,73,793	5,97,657	6,69,000	6,29,000	8,77,000
8. Provincial Rates	44,000	49,787	39,209	.....	.....	.....
10. Assessed Taxes	75,000	78,116	76,469	78,000	78,000	75,000
11 Forests	3,31,000	7,06,218	6,60,794	6,76,000	6,40,000	7,27,000
12 Registration	10,28,000	10,67,406	10,50,903	11,16,000	11,01,000	11,99,000
Total ...	51,9[illegible],000	63,99,855	62,09,785	64,23,000	62,58,000	69,65,000
13. Interest on Ordinary Debt ...	4,85,000	5,10,365	4,42,546	4,33,000	4,39,000	4,34,000
Salaries and Expenses of Civil Department—						
18 General Administration .	21,74,000	37,35,022	25,46,712	23,02,000	24,54,000	23,53,000
19 Law and Justice { Courts of Law	96,17,000	1,01,44,720	96,39,400	96,10,000	99,53,000	99,53,000
19 Law and Justice { Jails ..	20,70,000	20,51,332	19,61,852	20,79,000	22,76,000	20,76,000
20 Police	81,54,000	87,08,211	83,99,859	95,82,000	94,08,000	1,08,98,000
21. Ports and Pilotage	12,87,000	13,27,925	12,36,009	13,74,000	14,86,000	15,39,000
22. Education	53,34,000	61,21,873	73,76,829	1,34,88,000	85,10,000	1,45,43,000
24. Medical	24,37,000	26,14,743	26,42,133	41,01,000	29,00,000	47,81,000
25. Political	31,000	22,622	38,976	29,000	30,000	29,000
26. Scientific and other Minor Departments.	14,61,000	14,80,938	16,63,953	17,13,000	15,32,000	17,30,000
Total ...	3,25,65,000	3,62,07,386	3,54,85,703	4,42,78,000	3,84,99,000	4,79,02,000
Miscellaneous—						
29. Superannuation, etc.	26,22,000	27,85,637	29,25,688	30,22,000	31,09,000	32,31,000
30 Stationery and Printing ...	16,54,000	15,79,021	13,34,429	13,60,000	15,39,000	14,34,000
32 Miscellaneous	5,77,000	5,60,371	4,25,610	9,53,000	7,16,000	10,81,000
Total ...	48,53,000	49,25,029	46,85,727	53,35,000	53,64,000	57,56,000
Famine Relief and Insurance—						
33. Famine Relief	.....	.....	.....	...	...	.....
36. Reduction or avoidance of debt ...		60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000
Railways (Revenue Accounts)—						
40 Subsidised Companies—Land, etc.	...		−363	...		..
41. Miscellaneous Railway expenditure	...	...	.			..
Total .	..	60,000	59,637	60,000	60,000	60,000
Irrigation—						
42 Major Works—						
Working expenses ...	2,65,000	1,38,543	1,17,858	1,20,000	1,53,000	1,48,000
Interest on Debt	3,39,000	1,70,650	1,75,618	1,76,000	1,69,000	1,69,000
43. Minor Works and Navigation—						
By Public Works Department ...	17,40,000	7,83,553	7,68,153	9,33,000	9,97,000	11,19,000
„ Civil Department ...	3,000	1,954	965	1,000	1,000	4,000
Total ...	23,47,000	10,94,700	10,62,594	12,30,000	13,20,000	14,40,000
Buildings and Roads—						
45. Civil Works—						
By Public Works Department ...	63,65,000	61,52,000	63,21,755	74,30,000	78,00,000	89,56,000
„ Civil Department ...	16,74,000	30,27,729	26,80,384	30,20,000	28,30,000	20,77,000
Total ..	80,39,000	91,79,729	90,02,139	1,04,50,000	1,06,30,000	1,10,36,000
Total Charges ...	5,34,79,000	5,8[illegible],77,064	5,69,48,131	6,82,09,000	6,25,70,000	7,35,93,000
Closing balance ...	*	*	3,13,30,270	1,93,70,000	3,04,30,000	1,98,32,000
Grand Total ...	*	*	8,82,78,401	8,75,79,000	9,30,00,000	9,34,25,000
Provincial surplus (+) or deficit (−).	.....	.....	+1,47,05,270	−89,53,000	−9,07,000	−1,05,98,000

APPENDIX A.

Bengal Provincial Receipts, in detail of minor heads.

[Figures in columns 6 and 7 are those provisionally passed by the Government of India.]

The remarks in column 8, except where otherwise specially explained, refer to difference between columns 5 and 7.

1—Land Revenue—

Heads.	1910-11. Actuals.	1911-12. Actuals	1912-13. Actuals.	1913-14. Sanctioned estimate.	1913-14. Revised estimate.	1914-15. Budget estimate.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs	Rs	
Gross Land Revenue	2,69,68,000	2,71,72,317	2,7[illegible],87,156	2,83,88,000	2,80,42,000	2,96,64,000	
Deduct collections from Government estates which are wholly Provincial ...	45,42,000	43,30,589	47,70,855	44,32,000	43,90,000	47,00,000	The decrease in the revised is for suspensions owing to the floods in Midnapore and Hooghly and the increase in the budget is for expected recovery of suspensions of 1913-14
Deduct recoveries of cost of maintenance of boundary marks wholly Provincial ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	2,000	2,000	A new head opened as requested by the Comptroller-General.
Deduct recoveries of Survey and Settlement charges which are Imperial	39,000	48,564	6,29,962	11,22,000	10,34,000	20,24,000	The decrease in the revised is for smaller recoveries anticipated in Jalpaiguri. Budget includes :— Dacca ... . Rs. 2,50,000; Faridpur .. ... 7,26,000; Jalpaiguri ... ... 3,00,000; Mymensingh ... ... 5,00,000; Midnapore ... ... 2,48,000; Total 20,24,000
Total Deductions.	45,81,000	43,79,153	54,00,817	55,54,000	54,26,000	67,26,000	
Net amount divisible between Imperial and Provincial	2,23,87,000	2,27,93,164	2,25,86,339	2,28,34,000	2,26,16,000	2,29,38,000	The decrease in the revised is for suspensions owing to floods and the increase in the budget is for expected recovery of suspensions.
Provincial share of above	1,11,93,500	1,13,96,582	1,12,93,169	1,14,17,000	1,13,08,000	1,14,69,000	
Add collections from Government estates	45,42,000	43,30,589	47,70,855	44,32,000	43,90,000	47,00,000	
Recovery of cost of maintenance of boundary pillars	.....	.....	.....	.....	2,000	2,000	
Total Provincial ...	1,57,35,500	1,57,27,171	1,60,64,024	1,58,49,000	1,57,00,000	1,61,71,000	
Add on account of adjustments as shown on next page			1,46,73,885	56,43,000	57,39,000	57,84,000	

From Provincial to Imperial.							
For repairs to Nizamat Palace, Murshidabad			.....	.....	—40,000	.....	This has been sanctioned by the Government of India.
For Law charges on account of Bihar and Orissa			.....	.....	—15,000	—15,000	The charges were formerly paid by Bengal, but will now be paid by Bihar and Orissa Government.
Fixed adjustment under the Provincial Settlement			—7,28,000	—7,28,000	—7,28,000	—7,28,000	
For Collegiate and University expenditure in Bihar and Orissa			.....	.....	—21,000	—21,000	The settlement standard for Bengal included this, but it will now be debited to Bihar Government and paid to colleges in the new province.
For making certain alterations to the buildings of the Calcutta Museum for delivery of popular lectures			.....	.....	—2,000	.....	
Total ...			—7,28,000	—7,28,000	—8,06,000	—7,64,000	
From Imperial to Provincial.							
For Famine Relief scheme			60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	
Grant to the Calcutta Improvement Trust			1,50,000	1,50,000	1,60,000	1,50,000	
Recurring grant for popular education ...			9,25,000	9,25,000	9,25,000	9,25,000	
Recurring grant for aided English secondary schools			1,50,000	1,50,000	1,50,000	1,50,000	
Recurring grant for education of domiciled community (Calcutta)			40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	
Contribution for a grant to the C. M. S. College, Calcutta			.....	.....	6,000	6,000	
For improvement of female education ...			.....	.....	30,000	30,000	
Contribution for maintenance of Traffic Registration office, Bhairab Bazar ...			.....	.....	.....	1,000	
Contribution for Royal Bonus			1,227	.....	.....	.....	
Non-recurring grant for the construction of hostels outside Calcutta and Dacca ...			4,00,000	.....	.....	.....	
Grant for the development of University works, Calcutta			4,00,000	.....	.....	.....	
Ditto (recurring) . .			65,000	65,000	65,000	65,000	
Assignment for Belgachia Veterinary College			30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	
Ditto recovery of the cost of transmission of records by revised procedure introduced by the Court-fees Act ...			6,449	6,000	6,000	6,000	
Grant for the amalgamation of the clerical establishment of the Art section of the Indian Museum with the School of Art ...			1,190	1,000	1,000	1,000	

Adjustments—concluded.

Heads.	1910-11. Actuals.	1911-12. Actuals.	1912-13. Actuals.	1913-14. Sanctioned estimate.	1913-14. Revised estimate.	1914-15. Budget estimate.	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
From Imperial to Provincial—concluded.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Recurring assignment for remission of certain recoveries from local bodies			.....	.....	.....	26,000	
Non-recurring grant for the construction of hostel buildings in Calcutta			10,00,000	.....	.....	.. ...	
Non-recurring grant for Dacca University ...			10,00,000	.....	.....	.....	
Recurring ditto ...			45,000	45,000	45,000	45,000	
Contribution from Bihar and Orissa towards pay of electrical staff utilized by it ...			7,572	8,000	8,000	8,000	
Pensions of title-holders			2,700	3,000	3,000	3,000	
Lieut.-Colonel Sutherland's deputation for serological enquiry and that of Captain Shingleton Smith			17,256	20,000	32,000	25,000	
Grant of one-half of the salaries of Health Officers to be employed in municipalities .			39,000	39,000	39,000	39,000	
Grant for Indian Deputy Sanitary Commissioners			.....	19,000	19 000	19,000	
Cost of supply of forms and printing work done for Bihar and Orissa Government			2,32,000	2,32,000	2,09,000	2,32,000	
Cost of supplying forms to Assam Administration			1,29 500	.....	89,000	1,29,000	
Contribution from Bihar and Orissa in connection with fishery experiments			.. ...	15,000	.. ...	11,000	
Non-recurring assignment for sanitation ...			20,00,000	.....	.....	.....	
Recurring ditto ...			.....	5,00,000	5,00,000	5,00,000	
Assignment for the Chittagong port ...			.....	.....	75 000	75,000	Sanctioned for 5 years on condition that this Government gives a corresponding amount to the Port Trust from Provincial Revenues.
Non-recurring assignment for discretionary grants			12,00,000	.. ..	.. ...	.....	
Grant for Agriculture and allied objects ...			.....	1,50,000	1 50,000	.....	Of this Rs. 50,000 is for Cinchona Department.
Grant for Medical relief			.....	1,00,000	1,00,000	.....	
Recurring assignment in connection with the remission of appropriations from cesses ...			.....	24,93,000	24 93,000	24,93,000	
Non-recurring assignment for education ...			75,00,000	...	.....	.....	
Further recurring grant for education ...			.....	13,20,000	13,20,000	13,20,000	
Ditto ditto			.....	.....	... ..	1,50,000	
Assignment in connection with further scientific research by Dr. J. C. Bose for three years			.....	.....	.....	9,000	
Total Imperial to Provincial ...			1,54,01,885	63,71,000	65,45,000	65,48,000	

Sale of general stamps	55,10,000	68,61,102	63,74,686	66,40,000	67,00,000	71,00,000	Normal expansion of revenue.
Do. of court-fee stamps	1,34,51,000	1,38,72,790	1,38,84,986	1,43,10,000	1,42,40,000	1,45,50,000	
Do. of plain paper to be used with court-fee stamps	3,55,000	3,01,012	3,10,308	3,20,000	3,20,000	3,25,000	
Duty on impressing documents	43,000	31,812	57,163	44,000	2,36,000	2,40,000	Increase under this head is due to credit for the sale of embossed cheques as well as the value of stamps impressed by the Controller of Stamps which were formerly credited under "General stamps."
Fines and penalties	32,000	34,765	31,923	35,000	33,000	33,000	
Miscellaneous	66,000	21,095	84,787	51,000	71,000	52,000	
Total ...	1,93,36,000	2,01,12,576	2,07,43,853	2,14,00,000	2,16,00,000	2,23,00,000	Revised based on ten months' actuals.
Provincial share ...	96,93,000	1,00,56,288	1,03,71,927	1,07,00,000	1,08,00,000	1,11,50,000	

V.—*Excise*—

License and distillery fees for the sale of liquors and drugs—							
Foreign liquors		3,63,338	3,44,760	4,00,000	3,00,000	3,00,000	
Indian-made liquors excised at tariff rates		2,53,785	2,41,811	2,20,000	3,00,000	3,00,000	
Country spirits—							
License fees—							
Distillery							
Outstills							
Still-head duty		61,73,266	64,11,686	63,50,000	71,15,000	76,00,000	Increase in revised is from the settlement of shops. Increase in 1914-15 provides for normal expansion.
Miscellaneous							
Toddy revenue		4,26,401	4,50,393	4,50,000	4,60,000	4,60,000	
Opium and its preparations		8,11,686	8,96,519	8,50,000	12,00,000	13,00,000	
Other drugs, ganja, bhang, etc. ...		16,18,373	16,32,491	15,30,000	17,50,000	18,00,000	
Pachwai revenue		7,77,794	8,30,129	9,00,000	7,75,000	8,40,000	
Total ...	97,22,000	1,04,24,643	1,08,07,789	1,07,00,000	1,19,00,000	1,25,00,000	
Gain on sale-proceeds of excise opium ..	14,11,000	14,61,000	14,79,610	15,40,000	15,00,000	14,85,000	It is proposed to check the consumption.
Duty on ganja	14,25,000	14,66,420	14,37,379	15,80,000	17,65,000	17,80,000	
Fines, confiscations and miscellaneous ...	32,000	36,137	34,267	35,000	35,000	35,000	
GRAND TOTAL ...	1,25,90,000	1,33,88,200	1,37,59,045	1,38,55,000	1,52,00,000	1,58,00,000	Revised based on ten months' actuals.
Provincial share	62,95,000	1,00,41,150	1,37,59,045	1,38,55,000	1,52,00,000	1,58,00,000	

VI.—*Provincial Rates*—

Public Works Cess	31,65,000	30,83,495	30,96,008	... ..	.....	... ..	These receipts are being surrendered to the District Boards.
General rates for the management of private estates	94,000	91,377	1,06,144	90,000	1,23,000	1,18,000	There were special receipts in Midnapore and Dacca in 1913-14.
Total ...	32,59,000	31,74,872	32,02,152	90,000	1,23,000	1,18,000	

VIII.—Assessed Taxes—

Heads.	1910-11. Actuals.	1911-12. Actuals.	1912-13. Actuals	1913-14. Sanctioned estimate.	1913-14. Revised estimate.	1914-15. Budget estimate.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Deductions by Government from salaries and pensions, etc.		4,98,512	4,86,852	4,98,000	4,94,000	4,95,000	
Deductions by Government from interest on Government securities		24,009	21,192	24,000	23,000	23,000	
Deductions from salaries, etc., paid by local authorities or companies		88,367	88,660	89,000	86,000	90,000	
Income-tax on securities of local authorities or companies		1,40,809	1,43,568	1,40,000	1,47,000	1,47,000	
Ordinary collections		45,73,669	47,89,658	48,28,000	57,28,000	53,23,000	Increase in revised is due to some of the coal and jute companies and most of the banks having shown large increase in their profits. Increase is not expected in 1914-15.
Deduction from profits of railway companies		403	.....	.....	.. ..	.....	
Penalties		14,194	13,448	14,000	13,000	14,000	
Miscellaneous		7,105	8,274	7,000	9,000	8,000	
Total ...	51,55,000	53,47,068	55,51,852	56,00,000	65,00,000	61,00,000	Revised based on ten months' actuals.
Provincial share ..	25,78,000	26,73,534	27,75,826	28,00,000	32,50,000	30,50,000	

IX.—Forests—

Timber and other produce removed from the forests by Government agency ...	1,81,000	1,51,372	1,07,835	3,000	20,000	4,000	Increase in revised is due to sale of timber previously extracted in Buxa where departmental operation was given up.
Timber and other produce removed from the forests by consumers or purchasers ...	11,76,000	11,84,132	14,41,410	13,55,000	15,75,000	15,50,000	
Confiscated drift and waif wood	4,000	5,555	1,836	2,000	3,000	2,000	
Miscellaneous	43,000	46,406	49,520	40,000	52,000	44,000	Increase in revised is due to payment of fines in Tista for extension of timber agreements.
Total ..	14,04,000	13,87,465	16,00,601	14,00,000	16,50,000	16,00,000	Revised based on ten months' actuals
Provincial share ...	7,02,000	13,87,465	16,00,601	14,00,000	16,50,000	16,00,000	

X.—*Registration*—

Fees for registering documents	15,03,000	16,02,137	16,83,575	17,70,000	18,20,000	18,95,000	Increase is for increased number of registrations.
Fees for copies of registered documents ...	54,000	56,826	63,164	60,000	70,000	73,000	
Miscellaneous	74,000	74,731	76,422	70,000	80,000	82,000	
Total ...	16,31,000	17,33,694	18,23,161	19,00,000	19,70,000	20,50,000	Revised based on nine months' actuals.

XII.—*Interest*—

Class I.—Interest on advances to cultivators—							
On advances to cultivators under the Land Improvement Loans Act of 1883 ...		18,169	20,958	37,000	53,000	62,000	Increase in revised and budget is due to new loans for flooded areas.
On advances to cultivators under the Agriculturists' Loans Act, XXII of 1884 ..		63,367	36,469				
On loans to Co-operative Credit Societies		1,832	1,672	2,700	3,000	3,000	
Class II.—Interest on advances under Special Laws—	6,02,000						
On drainage and embankment advances		6,228	14,735	12,000	10,000	14,000	
Class III.—Interest on loans to landholders, etc.		2,15,454	1,97,580	1,90,000	1,94,000	1,74,000	The gradual decrease is on account of repayments of loans.
Class IV.—Interest on loans to municipal and other public corporations (excluding Presidency corporations)		1,88,285	2,00,145	2,16,000	2,06,000	2,20,000	Based on estimated outstanding mean balance of Loan Account.
Interest on Government securities ...	13,000	13,202	10,545	11,000	11,000	11,000	
Miscellaneous—							
Interest on arrears of Public Works Cess		14,959	13,361	15,000	3,000	2,500	Decrease due to the interest on arrears of Public Works Cess being surrendered to the District Boards.
Other items		410	5,001	500			
Interest on zamindari embankment recoveries, etc.		299	247	500		500	
Total Miscellaneous ...	16,000	15,668	18,609	16,000	3,000	3,000	
Rounding ...	.....	.....	.....	+300	.....	.....	
GRAND TOTAL ...	6,31,000	5,22,205	5,00,713	4,85,000	4,80,000	4,87,000	

XVIA.—Law and Justice—Courts of Law—

Heads.	1910-11. Actuals.	1911-12. Actuals.	1912-13. Actuals.	1913-14. Sanctioned estimate.	1913-14. Revised estimate.	1914-15. Budget estimate.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Sale-proceeds of unclaimed and escheated property	23,000	26,152	28,892	25,000	33,000	30,000	
Court-fees realized in cash	51,000	56,187	64,124	57,000	70,000	74,000	
General fees, fines and forfeitures ...	6,29,000	6,07,679	6,55,040	6,15,000	7,00,000	7,25,000	Increase due to larger magisterial fines.
Pleadership Examination fees	39,000	37,990	32,385	38,000	30,000	32,000	
Miscellaneous fees and fines	23,000	5,911	5,855	5,000	7,000	6,000	
Miscellaneous		26,858	28,605	25,000	27,000	28,000	
Total ...	7,65,000	7,60,777	8,14,901	7,65,000	8,67,000	8,95,000	Revised based on actuals of first nine months.

XVIB.—Jails—

Jails	19,000	9,287	1,356	9,000	1,000	1,000	
Jail manufactures	6,20,000	8,22,137	7,01,997	6,50,000	7,25,000	7,22,000	
Total ...	6,39,000	8,31,424	7,03,353	6,59,000	7,26,000	7,23,000	Revised based on actuals of first nine months. Budget follows revised.

XVII.—Police—

Cash receipts under the Arms Act ...		1,018	937	1,000	700	1,000	
Police supplied to public departments, private companies and persons		69,816	1,13,200	40,000	20,000	20,000	Decrease due to the abolition of additional police in the districts of Jessore and Khulna.
Presidency police		79,769	89,566	83,000	1,09,000	1,20,000	Increase due to larger receipts under the Motor Cycles Act.
Recoveries on account of village police ...		308	383	300	300	300	Based on actuals.
Fees, fines and forfeitures		14,153	16,880	15,700	17,000	17,000	
Miscellaneous		22,611	18,116	22,000	18,000	19,000	
For rounding ...		.....	.....	.....	.....	—300	
Total ..	2,03,000	1,87,675	2,39,082	1,62,000	1,65,000	1,77,000	Revised based on actuals of first nine months.

XVIII.—*Ports and Pilotage*—

Sale-proceeds of vessels and stores ...	.....	831	1,578	.....	.....	.....	
Registration and other fees { Calcutta ... / Chittagong ...	84,000	86,964 / 1,939	91,486 /	87,000 /	93,000 / ...	94,000	
Pilotage receipts, Calcutta	14,37,000	14,63,455	15,22,201	16,00,000	14,30,000	15,00,000	The receipts are decreasing steadily month by month in 1913-14. Budget provides for a small increase over 1913-14.
Lead-money for volunteers		12,545	11,472	13,000	10,000	12,000	
Miscellaneous	86,000	1,29,822	1,25,454	1,00,000	1,07,000	1,10,000	Actuals of 1911-12 and 1912-13 included special receipts of Rs. 27,000 and Rs. 20,000, respectively, on account of contribution made by the Government of India for the services of the *Guide* at Port Blair. This is not likely to be employed on similar duty in 1913-14 and 1914-15 and hence the decrease.
Total ...	16,07,000	16,95,566	17,52,191	18,00,000	16,40,000	17,16,000	Revised based on the actuals of the first nine months.

XIX.—*Education*—

Fees, Government Colleges—							
General	3,08,000	2,89,131	3,00,593	2,90,000	3,23,000	3,32,000	
Professional		46,074	49,713	48,000	56,000	56,000	
Fees, Government Schools—							
General	3,25,000	3,21,797	3,45,875	3,41,000	3,58,000	3,74,000	
Special		13,641	15,009	14,000	14,000	31,000	Budget includes fees of Madrassas in East Bengal which were hitherto credited to the Mohsin Fund.
Contributions from Native States, private persons and municipalities	8,000	5,126	14,667	9,900	6,000	12,000	
Income from endowments	.....	3,778	111	4,000	...	100	
Miscellaneous	37,000	53,701	51,708	44,100	58,000	57,000	
For rounding ...	.....	...	.....	.....	...	—100	
Total ...	6,78,000	7,33,245	7,77,676	7,51,000	8,15,000	8,62,000	Revised based on the actuals of the first nine months.

XX.—*Medical*—

Medical School and College fees	65,000	73,305	86,743	88,000	97,000	96,000	Increase is due to the increased number of students.
Hospital receipts (receipts from paying patients)	1,68,000	1,61,887	1,55,537	1,64,000	1,55,000	1,53,000	Based on actuals.
Lunatic Asylum receipts	22,000	25,061	26,108	23,400	27,000	28,000	
Contributions (from municipalities and private persons)	55,000	56,389	1,05,181	56,400	56,000	56,000	Actuals of 1912-13 included a special contribution of Rs. 50,000 from the Indian Research Fund for jungle-clearing in malarial districts.
Medicines sold by Civil Surgeons ...	26,000	26,167	37,293	30,000	50,000	50,000	
Miscellaneous	31,000	20,167	15,871	14,200	15,000	14,000	
Total ...	3,67,000	3,62,976	4,26,733	3,76,000	4,00,000	3,97,000	Revised based on the actuals of the first nine months.

[Sir William Duke.]

XXI.—Scientific and other Minor Departments—

Heads.	1910-11. Actuals.	1911-12. Actuals.	1912-13. Actuals.	1913-14. Sanctioned estimate.	1913-14. Revised estimate.	1914-15. Budget estimate.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Botanical and other public garden receipts ...	4,000	2,311	3,871	2,000	3,000	2,300	
Veterinary and stallion receipts ...	37,000	33,771	33,258	30,000	32,000	33,000	
Cinchona plantation	2,05,000	1,26,653	99,509	1,07,000	2,00,000	1,50,000	Budget based on the average receipts of the last three years. It is expected that in 1913-14 the requirements of quinine will be nearly double of that of 1912-13.
Agricultural receipts, including receipts on account of experimental cultivation ...	31,000	32,830	42,515	42,000	42,000	50,000	Budget includes receipts from the Rangpur Dairy Farm.
Public exhibitions and fairs	.....	.....	.....	.....	100	.....	
Emigration fees	24,000	25,695	24,630	30,000	24,000	23,000	
Inland labour transport fees	14,000	10,454	8,396	10,000	8,000	9,000	
Examination fees	1,000	—28	25	100	300	100	
Miscellaneous	8,000	5,367	5,727	4,900	3,600	4,600	
Total ...	3,24,000	2,37,053	2,17,931	2,26,000	3,13,000	2,72,000	Revised based on the actuals of the first nine months.

XXII.—Receipts in aid of Superannuation—

Family subscriptions of Indian members of the Covenanted Civil Service	1,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	There is now no Indian member.
Contributions for pensions and gratuities—							
Contributions of officers lent to foreign service of the first and second kind ...		26,779	26,451	22,000	18,500	19,000	
Contributions of persons employed for the management of private estates, under Act X of 1892		1,601	1,460	1,600	1,500	1,600	
Annuity deductions of Covenanted Civilians lent to Native States, etc., for short terms	23,000	2,432	4,663	4,000	3,000	3,300	
Refund of gratuities		60	72	100	.....	100	
Deductions for Pilotage Pension Fund ...	12,000	12,286	15,564	14,300	15,000	15,000	
Total ...	36,000	43,158	48,210	42,000	38,000	39,000	Revised based on the actuals of the first nine months.

XXIII.—Stationery and Printing—

Stationery receipts	3,000	2,535	2,799	3,000	2,000	2,000	Budget based on the actuals of 1912-13.
Sale of *Gazettes* and other publications ...	1,15,000	85,907	88,111	85,000	95,000	89,800	
Other Press receipts	22,000	41,983	29,193	42,000	28,000	28,200	
Total ...	1,40,000	1,30,425	1,20,103	1,30,000	1,25,000	1,20,000	Revised based on the actuals of the first nine months.

XXV.—Miscellaneous—

Percentage on capital furniture	.....	30	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Recovery on account of famine expenditure ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Unclaimed deposits	3,63,000	5,22,773	6,38,026	4,80,000	5,35,000	4,80,000	This is an uncertain head. Revised based on the amount of deposits likely to lapse at the close of the year.
Treasure-trove	.....	139	500	.....	.....	.....	
Sale-proceeds of Durbar presents ...	10,000	12,435	7,225	7,000	7,000	7,000	
Sale of old stores and materials	19,000	11,350	1,727	3,000	8,000	3,000	Revised includes Rs. 5,634 on account of sale of tents to the Private Secretary to the Lieutenant Governor of Bihar and Orissa from the Government House stock at Dacca.
Sale of lands and houses, etc.	1,35,000	201	2,742	3,000	15,000	2,000	Revised includes Rs. 11,540 on account of sale of Government land to the Railway at Chittagong.
Fees for Government audits	10,000	19,503	15,392	17,000	33,000	27,000	Revised includes Rs. 11,000 on account of fees due for audit of accounts for 1911-12 and previous years which was completed in 1912-13 and 1913-14.
Rents	19,000	14,666	14,900	13,000	14,000	14,000	
Miscellaneous fees, fines and forfeitures ...	3,000	2,639	7,098	3,000	4,000	3,000	
Contributions	.....	750	702	.....	1,000	1,000	
Miscellaneous—							
Fees and fines of revenue courts ...		21,908	27,194	24,000	26,000	24,000	
Recoveries of law charges, other than those in pauper suits		12,104	40,791	13,000	13,000	12,000	
Value of mathematical stores returned ...		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Sundry receipts—Circuit-house ...		368	299	400	500	400	
Miscellaneous receipts on account of Public Works Cess, under Act IX (B.C.) of 1880		521	704	600	.....	.....	
Miscellaneous receipts on account of the management of Wards' estates ...		34	107	.....	500	100	
Sale-proceeds of trees on tea lands ...		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Sale of elephants		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Other items		19,290	10,754	20,000	22,000	16,500	
Steamer receipts, Chittagong		6,660	4,177	7,000	2,000	2,000	
Total Miscellaneous ...	55,000	60,885	84,026	65,000	63,000	55,000	
GRAND TOTAL ...	6,14,000	6,36,371	7,72,339	5,91,000	6,78,000	5,92,000	Revised based on the actuals of the first nine months.

XXIX.—Major Works—(Direct Receipts)—

Midnapore Canal	2,08,000	2,15,470	2,20,782	2,27,000	2,03,000	2,13,500	Decrease in revised is under water-rates. An increase in the irrigated area expected next year.
Hijili Tidal Canal	55,000	62,657	53,136	53,000	47,000	53,500	Decrease in revised is due to silting up of the canal which reduced the navigation receipts.
Total ...	2,63,000	2,78,127	2,73,918	2,80,000	2,50,000	2,67,000	
Provincial share ...	2,63,000	1,39,063	1,36,959	1,40,000	1,25,000	1,33,000	

[Sir William Duke.]

XXX.—*Minor Works and Navigation*—

Heads.	1910-11. Actuals.	1911-12. Actuals.	1912-13. Actuals.	1913-14. Sanctioned estimate.	1913-14. Revised estimate.	1914-15. Budget estimate.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
In charge of the Civil Department.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Recoveries on account of lands benefited by embankments	55,000	50,031	49,850	51,000	50,000	50,000	This represents receipts in Midnapore under the contract system for the repairing of the zamindari embankments. Estimates based on the actual demands.
Provincial share ...	55,000	25,015	24,925	26,000	25,000	25,000	
In charge of the Public Works Department.							
(Irrigation and Navigation Works.)							
Works for which Capital and Revenue accounts are kept—							
Orissa Coast Canal			16,346	15,000	13 000	17,000	
Calcutta and Eastern Canals ...			4,21,908	4,50,000	3,70,000	3,75,000	Decrease in revised is on account of deficiency in the rice and jute crop.
Madaripur Bhil scheme			1,03,225	1,25,000	84,000	92,000	Decrease in revised is for falling off on account of concessions granted to passenger steamers.
Total ...			5,41,479	5,90,000	4,67,000	4,84,000	
Works for which only Revenue accounts are kept—							
Nadia rivers			28,986	28,100	28,250	25,100	
Gaighatta and Buxi *khals*			3,675	4,900	5,250	4,900	
Total ...			32,661	33,000	33,500	30,000	
Works for which neither Capital nor Revenue accounts are kept—							
Eden Canal			36,531	34,000	37,000	37,000	
Total Irrigation and Navigation Works ...			6,10,671	6,57,000	5,37,500	5,51,000	

(Agricultural Works)							
Works for which only Revenue accounts are kept—							
Magra Hât drainage project ..			2,480	4,000	4,500	34,000	
Works for which neither Capital nor Revenue accounts are kept—							
Government embankments ... ... / Takavi embankments under contract ...			27,059	24,000	24,000	25,000	
Total Agricultural Works ...			29,539	28,000	28,500	59,000	
Total in charge of the Public Works Department	5,53,000	6,73,000	6,40,210	6,85,000	5,66,000	6,10,000	
Provincial share	5,53,000	3,36,000	3,20,105	3,42,000	2,83,000	3,05,000	

XXXII.—Civil Works—

IN CHARGE OF THE CIVIL DEPARTMENT.							
Tolls on ferries		1,43,602	1,33,829	1,44,200	1,33,500	1,33,000	
Cemetery receipts		1,122	1,191	1,300	500	1,400	
Receipts from staging bungalows and encamping grounds		7,159	3,905	5,000	5,000	5,000	
Miscellaneous		3,379	3,598	4,500	5,000	4,500	
For rounding ..		.....	.....	.....	...	+100	
Total in charge of the Civil Department	1,53,000	1,55,263	1,42,523	1,55,000	1,44,000	1,44,000	Revised based on the actuals of the first nine months. Budget follows revised.
IN CHARGE OF THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.							
Total gross receipts ...	3,71,000	4,62,000	3,85,036	3,69,000	4,14,000	.....	Increase in revised is due to the sale of certain buildings.

APPENDIX B.

Bengal Provincial Expenditure, in detail of minor heads.

[Figures in columns 6 and 7 are those provisionally passed by the Government of India.]

[The remarks in column 8, except where otherwise specially explained, refer to difference between columns 5 and 7.]

1.—*Refunds and Drawbacks*—

Heads.	Actuals. 1910-11.	Actuals. 1911-12.	Actuals. 1912-13.	1913-14. Sanctioned estimate.	1913-14. Revised estimate.	1914-15. Budget estimate.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Land Revenue	46,000	39,012	21,090	25,000	19,000	25,000	There were special payments of Rs. 22,500 in 1910-11 and Rs. 6,500 in 1911-12.
Stamps	91,500	89,636	94,552	87,000	83,000	87,000	The actuals of 1912-13 include special payments of Rs. 14,000.
Excise	5,500	4,510	13,504	10,000	13,000	10,000	The charges are wholly Provincial from 1912-13.
Assessed Taxes	6,500	8,194	8,366	7,000	18,000	8,000	Revised includes a special payment of Rs. 8,000.
Forest	1,500	5,704	1,274	3,000	2,000	1,000	
Provincial Rates	5,000	1,692	747	4,000	...	...	
Registration	3,000	6,376	4,502	5,000	3,000	4,000	
Total ...	1,59,000	1,55,124	1,44,035	1,41,000	1,38,000	1,35,000	Revised based on the actuals of the first nine months. Budget based on the average actuals of the past three years, omitting special payments.

2.—*Assignments and Compensations*—

Land Revenue compensation	.....	7,500	.....	6	.....	6	
Pension in lieu of resumed lands	1,000	854	927	1,000	1,000	1,000	
Malikana	34,000	29,293	49,978	32,000	44,000	42,000	This is a fluctuating head
Excise compensation	1,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
For rounding	.....	.....	.....	—6	.....	—6	
Total ..	36,000	37,647	50,905	33,000	45,000	43,000	Revised based on the actuals of the first nine months. Budget provides for actual claims.

3.—*Land Revenue*—

Charges of District Administration—							
General Establishment		24,65,220	23,96,938	24,70,000	24,25,000	25,24,000	Decrease in revised is for savings under "Salaries." Budget includes provision for Additional Magistrate of the 24-Parganas, for revision of kanungo establishment, Rs. 40,000 for a launch for the Collector of Faridpur and Rs 10,000 for the purchase of iron safes for district and subdivisional treasuries.

Subdivisional Establishment ...		1,62,078	1,59,479	1,41,750	1,67,000	1,45,000	
Partition Establishment		—11,197	—23,624	—6,660	—24,000	—13,000	Revised provides for larger recoveries for partition work.
Record-room (or copy-making) Establishment		23,529	17,790	20,000	16,000	19,000	
Survey of waste-lands		1,587	8,136	2,000	2,000	2,000	
Management of Private Estates under Act X of 1892		26,864	22,729	23,000	23,000	24,000	
For rounding		.....	.....	—150	.....	.....	
Total ...	23,31,000	26,68,081	25,81,448	26,50,000	26,09,000	27,01,000	
Charges on account of Land Revenue collections	8,000	11,670	13,280	10,000	13,000	10,000	
Charges on account of Fishery collections ...	8,000	2,667	250	1,000	.....	.....	
Management of Government Estates—							
Collection of revenue		3,32,110	2,77,208	3,26,000	2,77,000	3,19,000	
Outlay on improvements		2,08,709	1,62,571	1,46,000	1,64,000	2,49,000	Budget includes Rs. 50,000 for additional expenditure on improvements and Rs. 67,000 for the reclamation of Sunderbans in the district of Bakarganj.
Total ...	4,04,000	5,40,819	4,39,779	4,72,000	4,41,000	5,68,000	
Survey and Settlement—							
Controlling Office (survey)		3,591	—224	.....	.....	.....	
Other survey operations—							
Bengal Drawing Office		27,712	8,696	30,854	9,000	52,164	
Other operations		24,827	45,776	70,275	87,000	96,998	Revised includes Rs. 37,000 for the new Survey School at Comilla by transfer from Education. Budget includes Rs. 42,755 for the same and Rs. 10,000 for training class for kanungoes and others.
Minor settlement operations ...		59,287	19,545	20,000	....	.....	
Other ditto		51,960	32,084	60,871	79,000	63,771	
For rounding	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	67	
Total ...	88,000	1,67,377	1,35,877	1,82,000	1,75,000	2,13,000	Budget based on actual requirements.
Land Records—							
Superintendence		80,618	41,985	1,000	1,000	11,000	Budget includes provision for the revision of the office of the Director of Land Records, while smaller reduction has been made as the share of cost chargeable to Imperial Settlements.
District charges		38,025	23,509	32,000	25,000	30,000	
Total ...	78,000	1,18,643	65,494	33,000	26,000	41,000	
GRAND TOTAL ..	29,17,000	35,09,357	32,36,128	33,48,000	32,64,000	35,33,000	Revised based on the actuals of the first nine months.

6.—Stamps—

Heads.	Actuals. 1910-11.	Actuals. 1911-12.	Actuals. 1912-13.	1913-14. Sanctioned estimate.	1913-14. Revised estimate.	1914-15. Budget estimate.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Superintendence—							
Presidency Executive Establishment ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
District Establishment	30,000	26,579	28,133	30,000	26,000	30,000	
Total ...	30,000	26,579	28,133	30,000	26,000	30,000	
Charges for the sale of general stamps—							
Discount on sale of bills-of-exchange or hundies		5,773	6,323	6,000	9,000	9,000	Revised based on the actuals of the first nine months. Budget follows the revised.
Discount on sale of other general stamps		1,80,510	2,03,559	1,99,000	2,26,000	2,26,000	
Total ...	1,79,000	1,86,283	2,09,882	2,05,000	2,35,000	2,35,000	
Charges on sale of court-fee stamps—							
Discount on sale of adhesive stamps ...		1,03,214	1,03,350	1,11,000	1,08,000	1,08,000	
Discount on sale of stamps for copies ...		9,124	6,117	9,000	8,500	8,500	
Establishment for sale of stamps ...		1,362	1,033	1,494	1,500	1,494	
For rounding		.....	.....	—494	.....	6	
Total ...	1,09,000	1,15,700	1,10,500	1,21,000	1,18,000	1,18,000	
Discount on plain paper	17,000	18,523	18,302	19,000	19,000	19,000	The figures furnished by the Controller of Stamps and Stationery for both 1913-14 and 1914-15 adopted.
Stamp paper supplied from Central Stores ...	2,73,000	2,99,928	3,40,446	3,50,000	3,29,000	3,50,000	
Grand Total ...	6,08,000	6,45,013	7,07,370	7,25,000	7,27,000	7,52,000	
Provincial share ...	3,04,000	3,22,507	3,53,685	3,62,000	3,63,000	3,76,000	

7.—*Excise*—

Superintendence	91,000	1,02,928	80,416	94,000	1,01,000	1,03,000	Increase is due to increase in grade pay of the Commissioner.
Presidency Establishment—							
Calcutta Collectorate (office)		41,866	48,494	47,856	47,000	45,888	
Inspection and Prevention		25,509	22,403	20,604	23,000	21,204	
Allowances and contingencies... ...		26,780	28,322	26,653	25,000	28,391	
For rounding			.....	—113		—483	
Total .	84,000	94,155	99,225	95,000	95,000	95,000	
District Executive Establishment—							
Sadar Establishment		73,687	73,897	1,18,145	77,000	2,21,601	Decrease in revised is due to lapse of the lump provision for reorganization. Budget includes Rs. 1,50,000 for the same.
Inspection and Prevention		1,37,329	1,36,035	1,37,193	1,34,000	1,36,341	
Allowances, etc.		90,690	87,553	94,540	92,000	93,538	
Bonus		5,353	53	.....	.....	.....	
						4,51,480	
For rounding ...		.....	.....	+122	.....	—480	
Total ..	3,23,000	3,07,059	2,97,538	3,50,000	3,03,000	4,51,000	
Distilleries—							
Presidency Establishment	94,000	13,869	13,690	14,000	11,000	13,000	
District Establishment ...		1,12,735	1,06,788	1,16,000	1,19,000	2,15,000	Budget includes Rs. 60,000 for the construction of residences and Rs. 50,000 for launches and boats.
Lump addition by Government ...		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Bonus		978	.....	.....	.....	.....	
GRAND TOTAL ...	5,92,000	6,31,724	5,97,657	6,69,000	6,29,000	8,77,000	
Provincial share	2,96,000	4,73,793	5,97,657	6,69,000	6,29,000	8,77,000	Revised based on the actuals of the first nine months.

9.—Provincial Rates—

Heads.	Actuals. 1910-11.	Actuals. 1911-12.	Actuals. 1912-13.	1913-14. Sanctioned estimate.	1913-14. Revised estimate.	1914-15. Budget estimate.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Collection of rates and cesses		80,436	63,050	65,000	62,000	63,000	
Valuation and re-valuation		91,859	84,320	1,27,000	1,30,000	1,15,000	Budget based on actual requirements.
Bonus		1,591	245	.. ...	.....		
Total ...		1,73,886	1,46,615	1,92,000	1,92,000	1,78,000	
Deduct—							
Proportion debitable to Local for cost of road-cess collection ...		1,18,019	1,07,406	1,92,000	1,92,000	1,78,000	
Proportion debitable to Local for revaluation							
One-third share of recoveries on account of collection of arrear cesses		566					
Contribution for pension of the Cess-collecting Establishment ...		5,514					
Total ...	44,000	49,787	39,209	.....	.....	.....	These charges will be incurred by the District Officers in the first instance and ultimately recovered from District Boards who are now getting the Public Works Cess, so that nothing will fall on Provincial Revenues.

10.—Assessed Taxes—

Calcutta Establishment		91,286	91,378	93,000	94,000	87,000	No provision has been made for the Income-tax Branch of the Board's establishment, as it has now been amalgamated with the Civil Secretariat.
District ditto		63,465	61,559	64,000	63,000	64,000	
Bonus		1,482	.....	...	.....	... ..	
Total ...	1,51,000	1,56,233	1,52,937	1,57,000	1,57,000	1,51,000	
Provincial share	75,000	78,116	76,469	78,000	78,000	75,000	

II.—Forests—

A.—Conservancy and Works.							
I.—Timber and other produce removed from the forests by Government agency		63,819	36,767	1,000	2,000	1,200	
II.—Timber and other produce removed from the forests by consumers and purchasers		1,02,281	1,12,100	1,07,000	1,14,000	1,32,650	Revised includes arrear adjustments of 1912-13. Budget includes provision for new boilers for launches *Hawk* and *Helen Grey* and construction of new boats to replace old ones for the Sundarbans Division.
III.—Confiscated drift and waif wood ...		2,406	1,370	1,000	1,000	1,200	
V.—Rent of leased forests and payment to shareholders in forests managed by Government		25	1,096	1,100	1,000	1,500	
VI.—Live-stock, stores, tools and plant ..		44,227	18,192	29,500	18,000	32,500	Budget includes provision for the purchase of two elephants for Chittagong Hill Tracts Division.
VII.—Communications and Buildings ...		71,739	1,14,704	96,700	1,18,000	1,31,900	Budget includes provision for the construction of Divisional bungalow at Kalimpong, Rest-houses at Gadadhar, Buxa and Chittagong Hill Tracts, Divisional Officer's quarters at Buxa-Duars and Inspection bungalows in Singalila Range, Darjeeling, and at Satkania in Chittagong.
VIII.—Demarcation, improvement and extension of forests		34,590	44,545	59,500	48,000	71,950	Budget includes cost of settlement and compensation for lands and rights in Jalpaiguri, and provision for climber-cutting in Tista, Jalpaiguri and Buxa.
IX.—Miscellaneous		4,433	3,309	4,200	2,000	4,450	
For rounding		.....	.....	.....	.....	—350	
Total A.—Conservancy and Works ...	3,41,000	3,23,520	3,32,083	3,00,000	3,04,000	3,77,000	
B.—Establishment.							
I.—Salaries		2,86,252	2,49,895	2,92,000	2,55,000	2,64,000	Decrease due to savings under "Salaries."
II.—Allowances		77,431	64,878	69,250	67,000	71,000	Budget includes provision for practical training allowances, as well as stipends for students at the Dehra-Dun College.
III.—Contingencies		15,841	13,938	14,478	14,000	15,144	
For rounding		.....	.....	+272	.....	—144	
Total B.—Establishment	3,22,000	3,79,524	3,28,711	3,76,000	3,36,000	3,50,000	Revised based on the actuals of the first nine months.
Bonus	.....	3,174	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Total A and B ...	6,63,000	7,06,218	6,60,794	6,76,000	6,40,000	7,27,000	
Provincial share	2,31,000	7,06,218	6,60,794	6,76,000	6,40,000	7,27,000	

12.—Registration—

Heads.	Actuals.			1913-14.		1914-15.	Remarks.
	1910-11.	1911-12.	1912-13.	Sanctioned estimate.	Revised estimate.	Budget estimate.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Superintendence	65,090	81,370	70,135	68,000	71,000	75,000	Budget includes provision of Rs. 6,222 for re-grant of savings in the allotment for contract contingencies.
District Charges—							
Registrar of joint-stock companies ...		.....	.....	.....	.....	21,900	
Calcutta		29,367	30,756	32,500	31,000	28,000	Budget omits provision of the Sub-Registry office at Bara Bazar, Calcutta.
District Sub-Registrars ... ... / Sub-Registrars		9,53,282	9,49,109	10,14,000	9,98,000	10,79,100	Decrease in revised is due to non-utilisation of the provision for revision of District Sub-Registrars' establishment. Budget provides Rs. 8,100 for increase of salary of District Sub-Registrars, Rs. 10,000 for increase of leave reserve, Rs. 45,610 for revision of District Sub-Registry offices, Rs. 4,500 for revision of the cadre of Sub-Registrars, Rs. 1,800 for increase in the allowance from Rs. 20 to Rs. 30 for probationers, Rs. 3,000 for the purchase of typewriters and Rs. 3,000 for cost of remitting salaries.
Ex-officio Sub-Registrars		3,387	903	1,500	1,000	1,000	
Total District Charges	9,63,000	9,86,036	9,80,768	10,48,000	10,30,000	11,24,000	Revised based on the actuals of the first nine months.
Grand Total ...	10,28,000	10,67,406	10,50,903	11,16,000	11,01,000	11,99,000	

13.—Interest on Ordinary Debt—

Interest on Provincial Advance and Loan Account	4,85,000	5,10,365	4,42,546	4,33,000	4,39,000	4,34,000	Both revised and budget are based on the estimated mean

18.—*General Administration*—

Salary of the Governor	1,44,000	1,40,791	1,29,096	1,20,000	1,20,000	1,20,000	
Staff and household of the Governor ...	1,30,000	1,55,692	4,22,279	2,95,000	2,75,000	3,28,000	Decrease in revised is due to savings in the grant for establishments as a portion of the charge was debited to the Civil Secretariat. Budget includes provision for special repairs to broad-gauge railway saloon and for larger grant for contingencies of the Military Secretary and the Private Secretary to Governor. The actuals of 1912-13 include initial expenditure on furniture, band and horses, saddle, etc., of body-guard.
Tour and establishment grant	57,000	85,338	1,48,628	1,00,000	1,30,000	1,00,600	Increase in revised is for larger expenditure on tour charges.
Delhi Coronation Durbar	1,000	11,35,299	22,146	.....	.....	.....	
Tour expenses	8,000	11,128	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Legislative Department	1,15,000	1,10,472	1,03,961	1,15,000	1,46,000	1,28,000	Revised includes initial expenditure on books and furniture for the library of the Legislative Council, and larger expenditure on establishment. Budget includes larger grant for the purchase of books and for allowances to reporters and for establishment.
Civil Secretariat	7,35,000	9,52,827	7,61,442	7,19,000	8,40,000	8,06,000	Increase is due to the creation of the fourth Secretary and transfer of a portion of the Board's establishment to the Civil Secretariat. Increase in revised is for officers on special duty, as well as for the creation of the fourth Secretary and transfer of establishment charges.
Executive Council	53,000	1,85,600	2,15,680	2,12,000	2,27,000	2,15,000	Increase in revised is for heavier tour charges and contingencies.
Board of Revenue	4,28,000	3,88,450	2,47,992	2,34,000	2,11,000	1,44,000	Decrease due to the abolition of the post of second Secretary and transfer of assistants to the Civil Secretariat.
Commissioners	3,96,000	4,41,381	3,93,516	3,98,000	4,10,000	4,04,000	Increase in revised is for larger expenditure on Salaries and on Dockyard Supplies.
Civil offices of Account and Audit ...	90,000	1,08,925	1,01,970	1,09,000	95,000	1,08,000	Decrease in revised is for savings under "Salaries and Allowances."
Inspector-General of Stamps, Excise and Registration	7,000	19,119	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Total ...	21,74,000	27,35,022	25,46,712	23,02,000	24,54,000	23,53,000	Revised based on the actuals of the first nine months.

19A.—Courts of Law—

Heads.	Actuals. 1910-11.	Actuals. 1911-12.	Actuals. 1912-13.	1913-14. Sanctioned estimate.	1913-14. Revised estimate.	1914-15 Budget estimate.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
High Court—	Rs	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Judges		7,67,667	9,19,575	9,44,000	9,48,000	9,90,000	Budget includes provision for a new Judge.
Original Side		3,20,130	3,19,711	3,43,000	3,36,000	3,38,000	Decrease in revised is for non-appointment of the Registrar of Insolvency. Budget includes provision for three shorthand writers recently sanctioned by the Government of India; while the owners' share of taxes will now be paid by the Public Works Department and hence the decrease.
Appellate Side		3,24,135	3,94,438	3,53,000	4,03,000	4,35,000	Budget includes provision for the establishment of the new Judge and for the new Inspector of Judicial Offices, sanctioned by the Secretary of State and his establishment, as well as Rs. 10,000 for re-wiring the electric installation and Rs. 2,000 for preserving memorial portraits
Copyists' Establishment		51,850	.....	45,000	.....	.....	Included under Appellate-Side above.
Reporters		24,876	24,878	25,000	25,000	25,000	
Bonus		4,695	8	.....	.....	.....	
Total	14,28,000	14,93,253	16,58,610	17,10,000	17,12,000	17,88,000	
Law Officers—							
English Law Officers		1,31,378	1,29,837	1,33,000	1,20,000	1,33,000	
Legal Remembrancer and High Court Pleaders		8,91,946	5,89,666	3,05,000	4,12,000	3,82,000	Revised includes provision for fees to Counsel in Damuder Diara case. Budget includes large provision for fees to Counsel with reference to past actuals.
Mufassal Establishment		3,96,536	2,60,137	2,78,000	4,02,000	2,91,000	Revised includes provision for fees to Counsel in Barisal Conspiracy Case.
Bonus		273	−84	.....	.....	.....	
Total ...	14,53,000	14,20,123	9,79,556	7,16,000	9,34,000	8,06,000	
Coroner's Court	8,000	7,795	7,307	8,000	8,000	8,000	
Presidency Magistrates—							
Calcutta Police Court	1,53,000	1,24,218	1,19,731	1,28,000	1,27,000	1,33,000	Budget includes provision for additional establishment for the separation of the Magistrates' Courts.
Municipal Magistrate's Court		10,517	7,974	8,000	8,000	8,000	
Court for juvenile offenders and house of detention	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	18,000	Includes Rs. 9,400 for recurring charges and Rs. 8,000 for non-recurring and initial expenditure.
Bonus	.....	647	8	.....	.....	.....	

19A.—Courts of Law—concluded.

Civil and Sessions Courts—							
District and Sessions Judges		10,86,951	10,74,868	10,77,888	10,84,000	11,11,000	
Subordinate Judges		4,53,513	4,41,166	4,47,150	4,79,000	5,17,086	Increase in both revised and budget is due to revision of Subordinate Judicial Service sanctioned by the Secretary of State.
Mufassal Small Cause Courts ...		24,683	17,756	17,736	18,000	16,728	
Munsifs		15,96,143	15,48,738	15,74,392	16,24,000	15,90,060	Increase in both revised and budget is due to revision of Subordinate Judicial Service sanctioned by the Secretary of State.
Allowances		55,917	42,461	36,282	53,000	35,440	Revised includes the charges for grain allowance provided for in the Miscellaneous Budget.
Supplies and Services		4,60,608	4,55,719	4,68,000	4,58,000	5,06,424	Provision made for larger grants for remuneration to copyists.
Contingencies		1,49,877	1,64,614	1,67,988	1,80,000	1,62,070	
Process-serving Establishment ...		7,63,373	7,30,720	8,16,943	7,71,000	7,74,864	
Bonus		57,537	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Deduct—Probable savings ...		.....	.....	— 6,379	.....	+328	
Total ...	43,20,000	46,47,602	44,76,043	46,00,000	46,67,000	47,14,000	
Presidency Court of Small Causes ...	1,71,000	1,65,836	1,61,324	1,84,000	1,84,000	1,96,000	
Criminal Courts—							
General Establishment	20,05,000	20,33,495	19,82,411	20,06,000	20,37,000	20,66,000	Budget includes larger grant for travelling allowances, supplies and services and contingencies.
Subdivisional Establishment		1,62,079	1,59,479	1,41,750	1,67,000	1,45,000	
Revision of chowkidari panchayats ...		2,956	2,356	27,000	27,000	52,000	Budget includes Rs. 40,000 for Additional Sub-Deputy Collectors as Circle Officers, sanctioned by the Secretary of State.
Police Case Hospitals	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5,000	This is for Police Case Hospitals in Alipore and Barrackpore.
For rounding	.....	.....	.....	+250	.....	.....	
Total ...	20,05,000	21,98,530	21,44,246	21,75,000	22,31,000	22,68,000	
Pleadership Examination charges ..	15,000	17,231	16,979	18,000	16,000	20,000	
Refunds	64,000	58,958	67,623	63,000	64,000	64,000	
Lump deduction	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	— 70,000	
Total ...	96,17,000	1,01,44,720	96,39,400	96,10,000	99,53,000	99,53,000	Revised based on the actuals of the first nine months.

9B—Jails—

Heads.	Actuals.			1913-14.		1914-15	Remarks.
	1910-11.	1911-12.	1912-13.	Sanctioned estimate.	Revised estimate.	Budget estimate.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Superintendence		86,423	65,797	61,000	60,000	59,000	Decrease due to appointment of Personal Assistant on minimum pay.
Establishments—							
Superintendents and Jailors ...		2,06,954	2,03,542	2,06,200	2,02,000	2,07,000	
Medical		31,406	29,910	35,500	35,500	33,000	
Clerical, Educational and Mechanical ...		12,206	10,770	19,000	12,500	12,000	
Warder		2,13,979	2,03,397	2,10,000	2,15,500	2,50,000	Budget includes Rs. 40,000 for the revision of warders service.
Menial and other		2,671	3,669	1,000	2,500	1,000	
Dietary charges		3,96,443	4,77,981	4,17,500	5,67,000	5,00,000	Increase is due to the increase in the price of food-grains.
Hospital charges		66,767	71,676	60,900	63,000	62,000	
Clothing and bedding of prisoners ...		63,138	54,479	68,000	54,000	66,000	
Sanitation charges		24,713	22,879	27,000	24,000	24,000	
Charges for moving prisoners		29,492	35,943	37,000	38,000	42,000	Budget based on actual requirements.
Miscellaneous services and supplies ...		1,12,921	1,01,286	1,23,500	1,10,000	1,18,000	
Allowances		16,834	12,680	11,000	15,000	11,000	
Contingent charges		64,648	82,951	90,000	94,000	57,000	
Extraordinary charges for live-stock, tools and plant		20,902	18,122	22,800	22,000	22,000	
Charges for police custody		20,573	18,235	22,000	17,000	20,000	
Bonus		8,888	—123	.....	.....	.....	
Charges for the distribution of quinine by the Juvenile Jail		.....	4,207	5,000	5,000	5,000	
For rounding		.....	.....	—400	.....	.....	
Total Jails ...	15,19,000	13,77,957	14,17,401	14,17,000	15,37,000	14,89,000	
Jail manufactures	5,51,000	6,68,208	5,44,013	6,61,000	7,39,000	5,86,000	Increase in revised is for larger purchase of raw materials chiefly for the Presidency Jail at Alipore. Smaller provision has been made in budget for raw materials and contingencies of the manufacturing department on the basis of actual requirements.
Refunds	.....	5,167	418	1,000	.....	500	
For rounding	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	+500	
Total ...	20,70,000	20,51,332	19,61,832	20,79,000	22,76,000	20,76,000	

20.—Police—

Presidency Police—							
Police Commissioner (Superintendence) ...		1,47,741	1,38,337	1,47,000	1,53,000	1,52,000	Budget includes provision for increased conveyance allowance of Deputy Commissioners sanctioned by the Government of India.
Calcutta Police		11,71,977	12,15,083	13,86,300	13,42,000	13,55,206	Decrease in revised is for abolition of an appointment of Superintendent and for savings in the grant for Police force. Budget includes provision for additional Police force for Criminal Investigation Department and Special Branch, Calcutta, and additional Police staff in connection with the scheme for the decentralization of the Police Court at Lal Bazar.
Hospital charges		23,171	32,258	32,000	35,000	38,856	Budget includes increased grant for diet due to increased rate sanctioned.
Special Police		38,739	35,522	37,000	40,000	39,000	
Cattle-pounds		2,322	2,887	2,500	3,000	2,938	
River Police		26,597	20,674	23,000	23,000	28,000	Budget includes provision for additional Police staff to regulate traffic at landing stages of Port Commissioners' Ferry service and provision for a new steam cutter and crew.
Police dead-house		1,673	2,093	2,600	3,000	2,700	
Bonus		23,680	2,256	.....	.....	.....	
Lump provision		.....	.....	20,600	16,000	1,04,455	Decrease in the revised is for non utilization of the full grant for raising the reserve to its authorized strength. Budget is made up of Rs. 65,000 for raising the reserve to its authorized strength, Rs. 33,455 for the Calcutta Police Training School and Rs. 6,000 for additional Police force to guard the Government Dockyard, Kidderpore.
For rounding		.....	.....	.....	.....	—155	
Total ...	13,23,000	14,35,900	14,49,110	16,60,000	16,15,000	17,23,000	
Superintendence	2,56,000	3,01,982	2,22,171	2,25,000	2,69,000	2,62,000	Increase in revised is for officers on special duty and larger expenditure under contingencies. Budget includes Rs. 6,000 for the revision of the office establishment of the Inspector-General of Police and Rs. 25,600 for the appointment of a fourth Range Deputy Inspector-General of Police.

10.—*Police*—continued.

Heads.	Actuals.			1913-14.		1914-15.	Remarks.
	1910-11.	1911-12.	1912-13.	Sanctioned estimate.	Revised estimate.	Budget estimate.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
District Police Force—	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Salaries		5,39,798	5,58,525	5,40,000	5,80,000	5,50,000	In the budget for 1913-14 larger deduction was made for probable savings which was not realized.
Police Force		29,43,647	30,60,900	31,50,000	32,43,000	34,00,000	Increase is due to additional appointments sanctioned during the year.
Training Schools		1,01,839	1,23,111	1,19,000	1,38,000	1,62,000	Increase is due to additional staff for the schools at Rampur Boalia, Berhampore and Dacca.
Establishment		1,92,899	1,99,662	2,02,000	2,12,000	2,02,000	
Hospital charges		41,087	46,293	45,000	48,000	49,000	
Allowances		5,63,671	5,30,455	5,00,000	5,95,000	5,40,000	Increase in revised is for the debit of the charges for grain allowance to this head by transfer from "Miscellaneous." Increase in budget is due to increased provision for local allowances of constables drawing minimum pay in the Eastern Bengal districts and for travelling allowances with reference to actuals.
Supplies and Services		6,15,154	6,42,299	6,72,000	6,76,000	7,13,000	Budget includes larger provision for escort charges, ordnance stores, cost of telephone lines and clothing and also provision for the purchase of a new boat for the Superintendent of Police, Noakhali.
Contingencies		2,35,101	2,41,040	2,76,000	2,76,000	2,62,000	
Other Police		3,17,347	2,94,402	7,01,000	5,04,000	7,50,000	Budget includes Rs. 5,22,000 for the re-organization of the River Police in the Eastern Bengal districts against Rs. 4,50,000 in 1913-14. Decrease in revised is for non-utilization of the full provision for re-organization.
Bonus		93,192	— 438	.....	.....	.....	
Lump provision of additional force and Police reforms		.....	.....	5,17,508	2,02,000	14,46,000	Decrease in revised is due to the debit to appropriate heads. Budget includes the following items :— Reorganisation of the Subordinate Police of the Eastern Bengal districts— Rs. Recurring ... ... 91,470 Non-recurring ... ... 3,13,385 Revision of Superior Police cadre ... 33,600 Extra cost in connection with the division of the East Indian Railway jurisdiction between

For rounding ...		.....	.....	—508	.....	.....	
Total ...	52,97,000	56,43,735	56,96,249	67,22,000	64,74,000	80,74,000	
Village Police	26,000	24,386	19,874	23,000	16,000	30,000	Budget includes larger provision for rewards to panchayats for good work.
Criminal Investigation Department ...	5,94,000	6,23,503	4,06,163	3,83,000	4,30,000	4,95,000	Budget includes provision for additional temporary force sanctioned for the Intelligence Branch and for larger grant for travelling allowances.
Special Police—							
Assam Frontier Police		184	291	.....	.....	...	
Bengal Military Police		2,94,747	2,51,836	1,97,000	2,14,000	1,87,000	
Frontier Police, Chittagong		45,009	42,841	48,000	44,000	48,600	
Upper Burma Police charges		6,125	6,032	6,000	6,000	6,400	
Bonus		3,994	63	.....	.....	.....	
Total ...	3,43,000	3,50,059	3,01,063	2,51,000	2,64,000	2,42,000	
Railway Police—							
Jorhat State Railway Police		.....	1,557	.....	1,500	.....	
Debru-Sadiya Railway Police		1,951	2,537	.....	2,500	.....	
Dacca-Mymensingh Railway Police ...		1,954	3,599	.....	4,000	.....	
East Indian Railway Police		84,922	79,901	1,06,000	85,000	1,09,000	Budget includes additional staff for police-stations at Jhajha and Ondal.
Eastern System Railway Police ...		1,84,258	1,73,253	2,10,000	2,03,000	2,10,000	
Bengal and North-Western and Tirhut State Railway Police		6,849	32	.....	2,000	.....	

Retention of temporary District Intelligence staff	53,808
Increase of pay of Head-constables and Constables	4,75,000
Increase of pay of dafadars	18,314
Introduction of station boat system in Bakarganj	2,808
Launch for Deputy Inspector-General, Dacca ...	18,135
Do. for Assistant Superintendent of Police, Munshiganj	38,938
Alterations to *Warden*	8,090
Settling of *Karwal nuts* of the Rajshahi Division under the Criminal Tribes Act—	
Non-recurring	23,000
Recurring	3,600
Strengthening of armed police reserve ...	15,934
Armed posts at Madaripur	12,168
Increase of pay of Sergeants	9,000
Increase of cadre of Deputy Superintendents ..	17,100
Strengthening of head-quarters treasury guard	6,386
Armed posts in the Dacca Division ...	27,720
Raising of the conveyance allowance of subordinate police officers	43,900
Strengthening of the armed reserve in Western Bengal	20,220
Reorganization of Military Police	79,197
Establishment of new police-stations in Asansol	23,144
Supply of mosquito nets	17,600
Purchase of iron cots	10,000
Station boat scheme	12,878

).—*Police*—concluded.

Heads.	Actuals. 1910-11.	1911-12.	1912-13.	1913-14. Sanctioned estimate.	Revised estimate.	1914-15. Budget estimate.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Bengal-Nagpur Railway Police ...		25,059	22,516	.....	.....	.....	
Assam-Bengal Railway Police ...		19,411	18,557	.....	19,000	.....	
Bonus		2,777	21	.....	.....	.....	
Total ...	3,10,000	3,27,181	3,01,972	3,16,000	3,36,000	3,19,000	
Settle-pounds	1,000	291	134	300	200	250	
Refunds	4,000	1,174	3,133	1,700	3,800	2,750	
Lump deduction	.....	.....	... .	.....	.....	—2,50,000	
Grand Total ...	81,54,000	87,08,211	83,99,859	95,82,000	94,08,000	1,08,98,000	Revised based on the actuals of the first nine months.

VI.—Ports and Pilotage—

Salaries and allowances of officers and men afloat	1,09,000	1,06,186	1,24,693	1,17,000	1,16,000	1,18,000	
Victualling of officers and men afloat ...	37,000	33,546	27,771	30,000	32,000	34,000	Increase is for mess allowances of officers of *Fraser* and *Lady Fraser*.
Purchase of marine stores and coal for the building, repairs and outfit of ships and vessels	2,61,000	1,24,485	1,22,569	1,50,000	1,50,000	1,40,000	Budget based on actual requirements.
Purchase and hire of ships and vessels ...	9,000	8,711	16,850	26,000	25,000	20,000	This represents the cost of towing the State-yacht *Rhotas* during His Excellency's river tours.
Pilotage and Pilot establishment ...	7,74,000	8,30,619	8,18,545	8,70,000	7,76,000	8,20,000	Decrease in revised follow the decline in pilotage receipts. Increase in budget due to anticipated trade activity and consequent increased charges.
Marine establishment	87,000	1,75,258	53,763	1,30,000	1,34,000	1,33,000	Increase is for increased charges of overtime fees.
Subsidies to Steam-boat Companies ...	13,000	7,823	8,474	3,900	7,000	7,300	Includes annual subsidy of Rs. 3,000 to the Rivers Steam Navigation Company and quarterly subsidy of Rs. 80 to the India General Steam Navigation Company.
Miscellaneous	34,000	23,500	29,329	31,000	1,81,000	2,53,000	Both revised and budget include the payment of Rs. 1,50,000 to the Chittagong Port Fund.
State-yacht establishment	20,000	14,273	9,906	13,700	10,000	12,000	Estimate based on probable requirements.
Refunds	3,000	3,524	4,089	3,600	5,000	4,000	
		...	.....	—200	... ..	—300	

22.—*Education*—

Calcutta University	96,000	66,028	5,15,000	53,500 65,000	1,18,500	1,20,000	The actuals of 1912-13 included a special Imperial non-recurring grant of 4 lakhs.
Direction	1,42,000	2,17,189	1,78,080	1,40,000	1,44,000	1,67,000	Budget includes provision for 3 Assistant Directors, including Officer for Muhammadan Education, and reorganisation of the office establishment of the Director of Public Instruction, and larger grant for travelling allowance and contingencies required for the Assistant Director of Public Instruction for Muhammadan Education.
Inspection—							
Inspectors of European Schools ...		22,789	18,162	12,000	11,500	12,000	
Inspectors of other schools		7,58,883	7,38,617	7,70,000	7,37,000	7,45,000	Decrease due to provision being made for the payment of owner's share of taxes on Government buildings by the Public Works Department, and also for larger probable savings with reference to actuals
Inspector of hostels and students' messes ...		13	.....	3,700	4,000	4,000	
Inspector of technical schools and of industries		16,076	25,709	26,300	26,500	28,000	
Bonus		6,719	110	....	.....	.....	
Total ...	7,31,000	8,04,480	7,82,598	8,12,000	7,79,000	7,89,000	
Government Colleges—General—							
English Colleges—							
Arts Colleges for boys		7,08,557	7,45,673	7,17,000	7,47,000	7,86,000	Budget includes provision for a whole-time Professor of Geology and a Professor of Botany for Presidency College and other additional Professors for Hooghly, Dacca and Rajshahi Colleges, and personal allowances of certain professors and heads of Colleges and larger grant for Scientific Research.
Ditto for girls		31,814	30,655	33,000	33,000	34,000	Increase is for larger grant for boarding charges.
Eden Hindu Hostel		33,683	30,391	35,000	32,000	30,000	Decrease is due to the exclusion of the owner's share of taxes of hostel building.
Oriental Colleges—							
Sanskrit College		32,384	33,425	32,000	32,000	31,000	Decrease is due to the exclusion of the college buildings.
Elliott Madrassah and other attached hostels		9,922	10,065	12,726	12,000	12,762	
Cost of maintaining messes attached to Government Colleges in Calcutta ..		...	.....	5,940	.....	5,808	
Lump provision for Collegiate education in Eastern Bengal		.....	...	40,000	.....	.....	Transferred to "Grants-in-aid."
Bonus		1,616	.....	...	.....	.....	
Deduct—Probable savings ...		.....	.....	—666	.....	—570	
Total .	6,95,000	8,17,976	8,50,209	8,75,000	8,56,000	8,99,000	

).—*Police*—concluded.

Heads.	Actuals. 1910-11.	1911-12.	1912-13.	1913-14. Sanctioned estimate.	Revised estimate.	1914-15. Budget estimate.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Bengal-Nagpur Railway Police ...		25,059	22,516	.....	.....	.....	
Assam-Bengal Railway Police ...		19,411	18,557	.....	19,000	.....	
Bonus		2,777	21	.....	.....	.....	
Total ...	3,10,000	3,27,181	3,01,972	3,16,000	3,36,000	3,19,000	
Settle-pounds	1,000	291	134	300	200	250	
Refunds	4,000	1,174	3,133	1,700	3,800	2,750	
Lump deduction	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	—2,50,000	
Grand Total ...	81,54,000	87,08,211	83,99,859	95,82,000	94,08,000	1,08,98,000	Revised based on the actuals of the first nine months.

VI.—Ports and Pilotage—

Salaries and allowances of officers and men afloat	1,09,000	1,06,186	1,24,693	1,17,000	1,16,000	1,18,000	
Victualling of officers and men afloat ...	37,000	33,546	27,771	30,000	32,000	34,000	Increase is for mess allowances of officers of *Fraser* and *Lady Fraser*.
Purchase of marine stores and coal for the building, repairs and outfit of ships and vessels	2,61,000	1,24,485	1,22,569	1,50,000	1,50,000	1,40,000	Budget based on actual requirements.
Purchase and hire of ships and vessels ...	9,000	8,711	16,850	25,000	25,000	20,000	This represents the cost of towing the State-yacht *Rhotas* during His Excellency's river tours.
Pilotage and Pilot establishment ...	7,74,000	8,30,619	8,18,545	8,70,000	7,76,000	8,20,000	Decrease in revised follow the decline in pilotage receipts. Increase in budget due to anticipated trade activity and consequent increased charges.
Marine establishment	87,000	1,75,258	53,763	1,30,000	1,34,000	1,33,000	Increase is for increased charges of overtime fees.
Subsidies to Steam-boat Companies ...	13,000	7,823	8,474	3,900	7,000	7,300	Includes annual subsidy of Rs. 3,000 to the Rivers Steam Navigation Company and quarterly subsidy of Rs. 80 to the India General Steam Navigation Company.
Miscellaneous	34,000	23,500	29,329	31,000	1,81,000	2,53,000	Both revised and budget include the payment of Rs. 1,50,000 to the Chittagong Port Fund.
State-yacht establishment	20,000	14,273	9,906	13,700	10,000	12,000	Estimate based on probable requirements.
Refunds	3,000	3,524	4,089	3,600	5,000	4,000	
		...	.....	—200	.....	—300	

Circle School grant		45,595	40,022	47,000	38,000	42,000	Reduced with reference to actuals.
Payment in support of local schools under District Boards		5,99,991	11,61,506	6,50,000	14,29,000	2,88,560	Decrease due to the stoppage of the equilibrium grant on the surrender of the Public Works Cess to the District Boards. Revised includes amounts sanctioned from the Imperial non-recurring grants.
Bonus		9,532	—288	.....	.....	.....	
Training of gymnastic masters		.....	.....	5,000	.....	.....	Omitted as there are no actuals.
Provision for the opening of B and C classes in certain High Schools		.....	.....	7,000	.....	.....	Omitted as there are no actuals.
Zenana classes in Eastern Bengal ...		8,004	8,813	12,910	10,000	12,000	
For rounding		.....	.....	—60	.....	+140	
Total ...	12,84,000	14,38,548	19,81,325	15,47,000	22,56,000	11,73,000	
Government Schools, Special—							
Training Schools— For Masters—							
Normal Schools		75,237	87,136	94,000	83,000	85,000	Decrease for smaller provision of stipends to pupil-teachers.
Guru-training Schools		2,13,361	2,14,067	2,79,000	2,40,000	2,53,000	Decrease due to smaller expenditure on stipends.
For Mistresses—							
Training School attached to the Kurseong Boarding School		19,009	23,474	16,000	19,000	26,000	Increase for transfer of charges for stipends to pupil-teachers formerly shown under "Normal Schools" and increased boarding charges.
Training Schools for females at Calcutta		.....	.....	13,832	.....	14,987	Budget includes larger grant for contingencies.
Schools of Art— Calcutta School of Art		39,955	26,830	44,000	29,000	41,000	Revised reduced with reference to actuals of the first eight months. Smaller provision has been made for cost of preparation of artisan edition of Pattern Book.
Contribution to District Boards for special schools in Eastern Bengal		.....	.....	3,976	...	.....	
Government Art Gallery		10,846	9,840	8,800	10,000	8,900	
Engineering and Survey Schools ..		66,474	83,123	1,21,000	66,000	60,000	Decrease in revised is due to the transfer of charges for Survey School at Comilla to the Survey and Settlement Department under "Land Revenue," and also to the abolition of the electric power-house of the Dacca Engineering School. Budget follows revised and is based on actual requirements.
Technical and Industrial Schools ..		49,096	54,530	72,000	54,000	67,500	Revised follows the actuals of 1912-13. No provision has been made in the budget for 1914-15 for the provincialization of Technical Schools.
Commercial Schools		19,675	24,370	29,600	26,000	30,000	
Madrassahs		74,168	73,590	61,400	72,500	95,000	Budget includes a special additional provision for the maintenance of Madrassahs hitherto debited to the Mohsin Fund which will now be charged here, as the receipts from fees will be credited to Provincial.

).—*Police*—concluded.

Heads.	Actuals. 1910-11.	1911-12.	1912-13.	1913-14. Sanctioned estimate.	Revised estimate.	1914-15. Budget estimate.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Bengal-Nagpur Railway Police ...		25,059	22,516	.....	.....	.....	
Assam-Bengal Railway Police ...		19,411	18,557	.....	19,000	.....	
Bonus		2,777	21	.....	.....	.....	
Total ...	3,10,000	3,27,181	3,01,972	3,16,000	3,36,000	3,19,000	
Settle-pounds	1,000	291	134	300	200	250	
Refunds	4,000	1,174	3,133	1,700	3,800	2,750	
Lump deduction	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	—2,50,000	
Grand Total ...	81,54,000	87,08,211	83,99,859	95,82,000	94,08,000	1,08,98,000	Revised based on the actuals of the first nine months.

VI.—Ports and Pilotage—

Salaries and allowances of officers and men afloat	1,09,000	1,06,186	1,24,693	1,17,000	1,16,000	1,18,000	
Victualling of officers and men afloat ...	37,000	33,546	27,771	30,000	32,000	34,000	Increase is for mess allowances of officers of *Fraser* and *Lady Fraser*.
Purchase of marine stores and coal for the building, repairs and outfit of ships and vessels	2,61,000	1,24,485	1,22,569	1,50,000	1,50,000	1,40,000	Budget based on actual requirements.
Purchase and hire of ships and vessels ...	9,000	8,711	16,850	25,000	25,000	20,000	This represents the cost of towing the State-yacht *Rhotas* during His Excellency's river tours.
Pilotage and Pilot establishment ...	7,74,000	8,30,619	8,18,545	8,70,000	7,76,000	8,20,000	Decrease in revised follow the decline in pilotage receipts. Increase in budget due to anticipated trade activity and consequent increased charges.
Marine establishment	87,000	1,75,258	53,763	1,30,000	1,34,000	1,33,000	Increase is for increased charges of overtime fees.
Subsidies to Steam-boat Companies ...	13,000	7,823	8,474	3,900	7,000	7,300	Includes annual subsidy of Rs. 3,000 to the Rivers Steam Navigation Company and quarterly subsidy of Rs. 80 to the India General Steam Navigation Company.
Miscellaneous	34,000	23,500	29,329	31,000	1,81,000	2,53,000	Both revised and budget include the payment of Rs. 1,50,000 to the Chittagong Port Fund.
State-yacht establishment	20,000	14,273	9,906	13,700	10,000	12,000	Estimate based on probable requirements.
Refunds	3,000	3,524	4,089	3,600	5,000	4,000	
		...	.....	—200	.....	—300	

Medical establishment—							
Superintendence		87,698	71,388	77,000	66,000	81,000	Decrease in revised is for non appointment of an Indian Medical Service officer as Personal Assistant as well as for savings in the salary of the Inspector-General on leave. Budget provides for the salary of Indian Medical Service Personal Assistant.
District Medical establishment ...		4,16,581	4,32,112	4,42,000	4,22,000	4,46,000	Decrease in revised is for savings under "Salaries and Contingencies." Budget includes a lump provision for the revision of establishment of the Civil Surgeons' offices.
Reserve Medical Officers and Subordinates		19,190	9,600	15,000	12,000	15,000	
Bonus		1,660	9	...	.....	.....	
Total ...	4,95,000	5,25,129	5,13,109	5,34,000	5,00,000	5,42,000	
Hospitals and Dispensaries—							
Presidency Hospitals and Dispensaries—							
Medical College Hospital		3,34,259	3,64,393	3,29,000	3,69,000	3,62,000	Increase in revised is for teaching allowances to Resident Surgeons sanctioned by the Secretary of State and for additional charges for establishment, allowances and supplies and services. Budget includes larger provision for Medical Stores and European Stores.
General Hospital		2,44,773	2,43,527	2,50,000	2,44,000	2,52,000	Budget includes Rs. 2,000 for increase of staff allowances of Military Assistant Surgeons. Decrease in revised is under "Supplies and Services."
Campbell Hospital		1,24,401	1,25,706	1,35,000	1,37,000	1,43,000	Increase in revised is for increase of diet allowances of nurses and under "Supplies and Services." Budget includes larger provision for salaries for increase in the number of Sub-Assistant Surgeons and increased grant for allowances and Medical Stores.
Albert Victor Asylum for Lepers ...		33,278	37,707	37,000	38,000	37,000	
Mufassal Hospitals and Dispensaries ..		69,290	1,08,402	84,000	1,05,000	91,000	Increase in revised is under "Salaries and Contingencies." Budget provides for smaller recoveries from District Boards and Municipalities for pay of Assistant and Sub-Assistant Surgeons.
Grants to Hospitals and Dispensaries ...		2,34,456	2,12,209	1,18,000	2,74,000	1,56,000	Increase in revised due to a grant of Rs. 60,000 for Mymensingh Hospital, Rs. 8,000 to the General Hospital, Howrah, and grants to other hospitals. Budget includes provision for grant to Jubilee Sanitarium and Rs. 25,000 for the improvement of nursing arrangements in mufassal hospitals.
Medical charges in connection with the Inland Labour Transport Fund ...		1,733	1,279	1,500	1,000	1,300	
Bonus		5,223	—16	...	.....	.....	
Total ...	9,80,000	10,47,413	10,93,207	9,54,500	11,68,000	10,42,300	
Sanitation and Vaccination	3,35,000	4,31,025	3,60,086	5,08,000	3,20,000	3,92,000	Decrease in revised is due to the lapse of provision for the purchase of quinine and anti-malarial measures. Budget provides Rs 50,000 for jungle-clearing.
Grants for medical purposes—							
Expenses during the prevalence of plague		13,323	13,844	4,360	14,000	14,000	
Contribution to Lady Minto's Nursing Association		3,554	.....	.....	.....	.....	This charge is shown in the Miscellaneous Budget.
Expenses during the prevalence of epidemics		3,352	1,249	4,000	2,000	2,000	

24.—*Medical*—concluded.

Heads.	Actuals.			1913-14.		1914-15.	Remarks.
	1910-11.	1911-12.	1912-13.	Sanctioned estimate.	Revised estimate.	Budget estimate.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Value of Medical Stores supplied to charitable institutions		795	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	
Bonus		25	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Exchange compensation allowance ...		.....	84	.....	.....	.....	
For rounding		...	.....	— 350	.....	.....	
Total grants for Medical purposes ...	27,000	21,049	16,177	9,000	17,000	17,000	
Medical Schools and Colleges—							
Medical Colleges		2,49,881	2,97,843	3,33,000	3,50,000	3,38,000	Increase in revised is for larger expenditure on serological tests. Larger provision has been made for the same purpose in the budget for 1914-15.
Medical Schools		1,03,900	1,13,503	1,23,000	1,18,000	1,28,000	
Bonus		695	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Total ...	3,68,000	3,54,476	4,11,346	4,56,000	4,68,000	4,66,000	
Lunatic Asylums	1,57,000	1,60,678	1,65,754	1,72,000	1,74,000	1,76,000	Increase is under "Establishment."
Special Hospitals	10,000	10,040	10,601	11,000	11,000	11,000	
Chemical Examiner	52,000	50,185	58,851	67,000	41,000	57,000	Decrease in revised is due to reduction of analysing staff. Decrease in budget is for abolition of one post of Assistant Chemical Examiner, and non-provision for a probationer and smaller provision for house allowance.
Refunds	13,000	14,748	13,002	14,500	14,000	14,928	
Lump grant for non-recurring expenditure on sanitation	.....	.....	.....	6,75,000	1,25,000	18,82,772	The amounts formerly provided for under "Civil Works in charge of Civil Officers" have now been provided for here to show in one place the whole of the grant for the improvement of sanitation.
Ditto for recurring grant ...	.....	.....	.....	5,00,000	50,000	9,50,000	
Grant for Medical relief	.....	.....	...	1,00,000	12,000	80,000	This is the balance of the Imperial grant of one lakh.
Lump grant for School of Tropical Medicine	.....	.....	.....	1,00,000	.....	1,50,000	Includes one lakh, the balance of the Imperial grant, and Rs. 50,000 for equipments.
Lump deduction for probable savings ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	— 10,00,000	
Grand Total ...	24,37,000	26,14,743	26,42,133	41,01,000	29,00,000	47,81,000	Revised based on the actuals of the first nine months.

25.—Political—

Political Agents	10,000	14,648	11,854	14,900	15,500	15,600	
Entertainment of Envoys and Chiefs ...	1,000	..	.....	...	.....	.....	
Durbar presents and allowances to Vakils, etc.	17,000	7,872	23,750	10,600	12,000	10,000	
Miscellaneous	3,000	102	3,372	3,500	2,500	3,400	
Total ...	31,000	22,622	38,976	29,000	30,000	29,000	Revised based on the actuals of the first nine months.

26.—Scientific and other Minor Departments—

Veterinary and stallion charges	2,05,000	2,02,035	1,70,807	1,89,000	1,74,500	1,8[illegible],000	Decrease in revised is under "Supplies and Services and Contingencies" of the Veterinary College, allowances of Veterinary Inspectors, and contingencies of Veterinary Hospitals.
Donations to Scientific Societies	14,000	14,950	15,200	11,600	11,600	11,600	
Agriculture	3,95,000	4,03,479	3,47,109	4,84,000	4,49,000	5,55,000	Decrease in revised is chiefly under Sericulture. Increase in budget is for the appointment of a Second Deputy Director of Agriculture, additional supervisors, provision for field men, Demonstrators and Apprentices, additional grant for travelling allowance and for additional expenditure on experimental farms
Provincial Museum	1,000	.....	.....	1,600	.....	.. ...	
Cinchona plantations	4,02,000	3,85,751	6 67,844	2,54,200	2,71,000	2,58,000	Increase in budget is for additional temporary establishment owing to the extension of the plantations.
Public exhibitions and fairs	1,000	379	2,622	...	100	... ..	
Botanical and other public gardens ...	1,89,000	1,74,598	1,77,519	2,06,000	1,66,000	1,93,000	Decrease in revised is for savings in the pay of the Superintendent, Royal Botanic Gardens, the permanent incumbent being on leave, and in the grants for supplies and services and contingencies. Budget provides Rs. 20,000 for grant to the Zoological Garden, while the estimate for 1913-14 included Rs. 30,000 on the same account.
Emigration	22,000	19,464	22,224	23,000	23,000	23,000	
Inspector of Factories	52,000	65,022	60,086	72,000	69,500	79,000	Decrease in revised is for savings in the provision for allowances to Civil Medical officers for inspecting factories. Budget includes provision for an additional Inspector.
Census	2,000	1,634	.....	.. ...	.....	.....	
Gazetteer and Statistical Memoirs ...	1,000	3,135	3,726	14,000	4,000	10,000	Decrease in revised is for the delay in the preparation of the Gazetteer volumes.
Registration of railway traffic	12,000	11,167	9,933	8,000	8,000	8,360	
Ditto of river-borne traffic ...	6,000	10,412	5,653	3,600	3,000	6,550	Budget includes provision for registration of steamer-borne trade traffic at Bhairab Bazar in Mymensingh and for the registration of traffic passing over inland wharves.
Provincial statistics	20,000	25,216	30,150	26,400	28,000	23,300	
Preservation and translation of ancient manuscripts	7,000	5,850	7,625	9,000	9,000	9,000	
Examinations	1,000	441	422	500	500	700	

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—*Scientific and other Minor Departments*—concluded.

Heads.	Actuals.			1913-14.		1914-15.	Remarks.
	1910-11.	1911-12.	1912-13.	Sanctioned estimate.	Revised estimate.	Budget estimate.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
spector of Mines	... ..	265	125	300	200	200	
eteriology	10,000	16,272	13,029	11,500	12,500	13,000	
gistrar of Co-operative Credit Societies ...	57,000	80,391	61,051	73,000	77,000	93,000	Budget provides for additional establishment for the extension of the department
land Labour Transport Fund ..	29,000	29,030	22,687	22,000	23,000	27,000	Budget includes provision for the construction of a bungalow for the Emigration Officer at Goalundo.
iscellaneous (Smoke Nuisance and Fishery charges)	33,000	37,331	45,415	1,23,000	1,06,000	86,000	Budget for 1913-14 included provision for a new launch for the Fishery Department.
nperial Institute	.. ...	8	.. ...	. ...	100	...	
efunds	2,000	108	726	900	1,000	1,200	
ump provision for Agriculture and allied objects	.....	...	.....	1,80,000	1,06,000	1,52,000	Revised includes Rs. 20,000 for the Cinchona Department, Rs. 85,000 for the Rangpur Dairy Farm and Rs 1,000 for grant to Tea Association. Budget provides for regrant of saving of Rs. 52,000 from Imperial grant and Provincial grant of one lakh for the improvement of the Agricultural Department.
For rounding	.....	. ...	.. ...	.....	... ...	+90	
Total	14,61,000	14,80,938	16,63,953	17,13,000	15,32,000	17,30,000	Revised based on the actuals of the first nine months.

9.—*Superannuation*—

ovenanted Civil Service pensions ...	25,78,000	43,750	45,000	44,000	45,000	45,000	
uperannuation and retired allowances ..		27,13,887	28,54,278	29,50,000	29,64,000	30,83,000	Budget provides for the normal growth of expenditure.
ompassionate allowances	10,000	2,683	2,647	5,000	4,000	4,000	
ratuities	25,000	16,380	14,932	14,000	12,000	15,000	Based on actuals.
orts and Pilotage pensions	9,000	8,603	8,493	8,500	8,500	8,500	
efunds	...	334	338	500	500	500	
ommuted value of pensions	.....	.. ..	.....	.....	75,000	75,000	A new head opened as desired by the Comptroller-General.
Total	26,22,000	27,85,637	29,25,688	30,22,000	31,09,000	32,31,000	Revised based on the actuals of the first nine months.

30.—Stationery and Printing—

Forms Department at the Presidency ...	50,000	53,391	52,002	59,000	57,000	71,000	Budget includes Rs. 10,000 for allowances to establishment owing to the introduction of jail hours.
Stationery purchased in the country ...	26,000	24,869	23,130	25,000	24,000	25,000	
Government presses	6,44,000	6,74,169	6,24,717	6,24,000	6,40,000	6,84,000	Budget includes larger provision for plant of the Secretariat Press and provision for the Branch Press at Koilaghat.
Printing at private presses	4,000	5,129	1,222	4,000	2,000	2,000	
Stationery supplied from Central Stores ...	9,30,000	8,19,035	6,32,102	6,46,000	8,13,000	6,60,000	Revised includes additional grants of Rs. 82,000 for Dacca Jail Press and Rs. 85,000 for Forms Department.
Refunds	...	2,428	1,256	2,000	3,000	2,000	
Total ...	16,54,000	15,79,021	13,34,429	13,60,000	15,39,000	14,44,000	Revised based on the actuals of the first nine months.

32.—Miscellaneous—

Miscellaneous charges for the treatment of patients of the Pasteur Institute ...	1,000	1,492	1,296	1,500	1,000	1,000	Based on actuals.
Travelling allowances to officers attending examinations	4,000	3,774	7,150	3,500	5,000	4,000	
Reward for proficiency in Oriental languages, and allowance to the Language Examination Committee	8,000	7,200	4,017	9,000	4,000	6,000	
Cost of books and publications	16,000	47,503	8,112	3,000	1,000	1,000	The actuals of 1912-13 included Rs. 3,000 paid to "Biswavarta" and Rs. 5,000 for purchase of copyright of Mr. Garett's "Sale Law."
Donations for charitable purposes ...	1,57,000	1,83,618	2,30,273	1,60,000	2,27,000	1,70,000	Revised includes building grants of Rs. 26,450 to the Prisoners' Aid Society, Rs. 3,000 to Calcutta Orphanage and Rs. 11,666 for Anath Bhander.
Charges on account of European vagrants ..	5,000	4,603	7,960	7,000	4,000	6,000	
Rewards for destruction of wild animals ...	9,000	16,503	13,953	14,000	20,000	19,000	Revised and budget raised with reference to increasing actuals.
Petty establishments	48,000	50,291	37,695	43,500	41,000	23,000	The charges of the Controller of Office System have been transferred to High Court.
Special Commissions of Enquiry ...	40,000	484	52,274	19,000	1,85,000	50,000	Revised includes Rs. 1,00,000 for the District Administration Committee and Rs. 77,000 for the Port Facilities Committee. Budget includes Rs. 20,000 for the former and Rs. 3,000 for the latter and Rs. 27,000 for other charges.
Irrecoverable temporary loans written off ...	7,000	4	2,323	1,000	4,000	4,000	
Rent, rates and taxes	38,000	54,106	45,496	54,000	42,000	45,000	Decrease due to the payment of owner's share of taxes by the Public Works Department.
Contributions	2,33,000	1,75,287	3,396	4,000	10,000	8,800	Budget includes provision for guarantee of new telegraph offices to be opened for Police, and other purposes.

8.—Miscellaneous—concluded.

Heads.	Actuals.			1913-14.		1914-15.	Remarks.
	1910-11.	1911-12.	1912-13.	Sanctioned estimate.	Revised estimate.	Budget estimate.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Miscellaneous and unforeseen charges ...	3,000	7,245	4,804	2,62,000	1,58,000	3,06,000	Revised includes Rs. 1,50,000 for expenditure on gratuitous relief in flooded areas, Rs. 4,000 for King's portrait and Rs. 4,000 for other charges. The decrease as compared with budget is due to the adjustment under proper heads of the expenditure from petty grants by His Excellency and the reserve provision for unforeseen charges. The budget for 1914-15 includes Rs. 1,00,000 for petty grants by His Excellency, Rs. 1,50,000 for reserve, Rs. 50,000 for expenditure on gratuitous relief, and Rs. 6,000 for other charges.
Miscellaneous refunds	8,000	8,261	2,732	8,500	8,000	8,000	
Annual stipend to holders of literary titles ...	.....	.....	4,092	3,000	3,000	3,000	
Lump provision for grain compensation allowance for all departments	.....	....	.....	3,60,000	.....	4,00,000	The charges for 1913-14 have been distributed to the respective departments. Budget is intended to provide for the increase of pay of menials of all departments when the grain allowance will cease.
Charges for search of hidden treasure ...	.....	.....	37	.....	.....	.....	
Remission for certain recoveries from Local Bodies	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	26,000	This has just been sanctioned by the Government of India.
For rounding ..	.....	.....	...	.....	.....	+200	
Total ...	5,77,000	5,60,371	4,25,610	9,53,000	7,16,000	10,81,000	Revised based on the actuals of the first nine months.
42.—Irrigation—Major Works (Working Expenses)—							
Midnapore Canal		2,43,964	2,06,943	1,87,000	1,97,000	2,10,000	Budget includes provisions for special repairs to the distributaries.
Hijili Tidal Canals		33,122	28,774	53,000	1,09,000	86,000	Both revised and budget include provision for charges for silt-clearance.
Total ...	2,65,000	2,77,086	2,35,717	2,40,000	3,06,000	2,96,000	
Provincial share ...	2,65,000	1,38,543	1,17,858	1,20,000	1,53,000	1,48,000	
42.—Irrigation—Major Works (Interest on Debt)—							
Interest	3,39,000	3,41,301	3,51,236	3,52,000	3,38,000	3,38,000	
Provincial share	3,39,000	1,70,650	1,75,618	1,76,000	1,69,000	1,69,000	

48.—Minor Works and Navigation—

IN CHARGE OF THE CIVIL DEPARTMENT.							
Embankments under the contract system—							
Establishments		2,375	1,882	2,000	2,000	2,000	
Contingencies		31	48	500	500	5,500	Budget includes Rs. 5,000 for grant-in-aid for bandalling the river Ganges near Rampur Boalia.
Maintenance charges of the Howrah and Rajapur drainage projects ...		1,425	..	..		..	
Refunds		6	.....	500	500	500	
Bonus		71	.. ...	...	..	...	
Total in charge of the Civil Department	3,000	3,909	1,930	3,000	3,000	8,000	
Provincial share	3,000	1,954	965	1,000	1,000	4,000	
IN CHARGE OF THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.							
IRRIGATION AND NAVIGATION WORKS.							
Works for which Capital and Revenue Accounts are kept.							
CAPITAL.							
Works in progress.							
Midnapore Canal		(−)3,942	1,198	2,400	1,200	2,400	
Hijili Tidal Canal		...	...	...	...		
Hooghly Bidyadhari Canal		.....	12,741	...	21,759	...	
Calcutta and Eastern Canals		(−)96,978	−82,320	−77,600	80,450	−55,800	
Madaripur Bhil scheme		4,59,082	95,480	2,26,400	2,93,000	34,500	
Utterbhag lock		14,798	73,862	26,800	26,300	..	
Total Capital ..		3,72,960	1,00,960	1,77,000	2,61,809	−18,900	
REVENUE.							
Orissa Coast Canal		19,016	18,957	26,000	26,770	17,400	
Calcutta and Eastern Canals		3,01,057	4,39,561	5,88,000	4,38,050	6,12,000	
Madaripur Bhil scheme		7,210	92,917	63,000	93,800	60,500	
Total Revenue ...		3,27,283	5,51,435	6,77,000	5,58,620	6,89,900	
Total Works for which Capital and Revenue accounts are kept ...		7,00,243	6,52,395	8,54,000	8,20,429	6,71,000	

49.—*Minor Work and Navigation*—concluded.

Heads.	Actuals. 1910-11.	Actuals. 1911-12.	Actuals. 1912-13.	1913-14 Sanctioned estimate.	1913-14 Revised estimate	1914-15. Budget estimate.	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs	
Works for which only Revenue Accounts are kept.							
WORKS IN PROGRESS							
Nadia Rivers		80,226	1,38,461	1,23,500	1,24,400	1,29,000	
Gaighatta and Buxi *khals*		4,680	8,637	500	500	600	
Total Works for which only Revenue Accounts are kept		84,906	1,47,098	1,24,000	1,24,900	1,29,600	
Works for which neither Capital nor Revenue Accounts are kept.							
WORKS IN PROGRESS.							
Eden Canal		28,341	20,684	38,000	58,500	89,000	Budget includes Rs. 35,000 for the construction of a new sluice below Jujuti.
Improvement of navigable channels—Ganges river		22,543	54,332	35,000	45,000	45,000	
Dredging the Bhagirathi entrance ...							
Ditto Gorai entrance		60,530		7,000	15,121	20,000	
Other works							
Dredging the Dhaleswari and Buriganga rivers							
Bandalling and putting on spurs on the Dhaleswari and Buriganga rivers ...		.....	48,691	88,000	79,000	80,000	
Grant-in-aid for bandalling the Ganges near Ramjur Boalia							
Improving the channel of the Karnafuli ...							
Repairs							
Dredging the Puttimari channel ...		.....	.. ...		.	86,400	
Taking tidal observations and making surveys in connection with the proposed canalisation of the Bidyadhari and Peali rivers		... ..	.. ...	.. .	13,262	.....	
Total Works for which neither Capital nor Revenue Accounts are kept ...		1,11,414	1,23,707	1,68,000	2,10,883	3,20,400	
Total Irrigation and Navigation Works ...		8,96,563	9,23,200	11,46,000	11,56,212	11,21,000	

AGRICULTURAL AND DRAINAGE WORKS.						
Works for which only Revenue Accounts are kept and for which neither Capital nor Revenue Accounts are kept.						
WORKS IN PROGRESS.						
Government embankments						
Midnapore takavi embankments under contract						
Rajapur and Howrah drainage						
Magra Hât drainage project						
Total Agricultural ...	.....	6,70,544	6,13,107	6,96,000	8,36,639	10,94,000
Reserve	.....	.....	.....	24,000	1,149	23,000
Total in charge of the Public Works Department	17,40,000	15,67,107	15,36,307	18,66,000	19,94,000	22,38,000
Provincial share	17,40,000	7,83,553	7,68,153	9,33,000	9,97,000	11,19,000

45.—*Civil Works*—

IN CHARGE OF THE CIVIL DEPARTMENT.						
Provision for sub-overseers in each subdivision in Bengal to report on the real condition of rural water-supply ..		.....	.....	38,000	27,000	14,000
Ferry charges		2,485	2,584	5,527	5,578	7,838
„ refunds		7,517	9,505	12,000	10,300	12,000
Staging bungalows		4,223	5,660	6,996	4,200	3,947
Encamping grounds		17	59	500	139	776
Arboriculture		13,754	21,146	.. ...	. ..	.....
Cemetery establishment		.....	.....	... ..	4,800	4,613
Contributions in aid of excluded local funds and municipalities		8,28,989	4,36,575	14,95,320	9,00,466	1,74,813
Other items		14,461	1,74,290	4,650	21,183	5,150
Grant to the Calcutta Improvement Trust ...		11,50,000	11,50,000	11,50,000	11,50,000	11,50,000
Contribution to district funds and district road funds		10,06,283	8,80,565	3,07,934	7,06,334	7,03,700
* *Deduct*—Probable savings ...	.....	.....	.. ...	—1,227	.....	+163
Total in charge of the Civil Department ...	16,74,000	30,27,729	26,80,384	30,20,000	28,30,000	20,77,000

45.—Civil Works—concluded.

Heads.	Actuals. 1910-11.	Actuals. 1911-12.	Actuals. 1912-13.	1913-14. Sanctioned estimate.	1913-14. Revised estimate.	1914-15. Budget estimate.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
In charge of the Public Works Department.							
Original Works.							
Civil Buildings { In progress ...				14,79,900	43,09,000	15,69,000	
Civil Buildings { Not commenced ...				24,08,017		28,92,000	
Communications. { In progress ...				1,06,900	3,89,000	1,46,000	
Communications. { Not commenced ...				3,29,900		9,38,000	
Miscellaneous Public Improvements. { In progress ...				65,300	83,000	14,000	
Miscellaneous Public Improvements. { Not commenced ...				3,300		.....	
Total ..				43,93,317	47,81,000	55,59,000	Larger grants made for new works.
Repairs.							
Civil Buildings				10,04,290	10,18,000	12,73,000	
Communications				7,79,000	8,27,000	8,00,000	
Miscellaneous Public Improvements ...				1,09,310	1,12,000	1,10,000	
Total ...				18,92,600	19,57,000	21,83,000	
Establishment				11,07,082	10,20,000	11,47,000	Budget includes salary of the Irrigation Secretary.
Tools and Plant				37,000	39,000	70,000	
Stock and Suspense				.....	3,000	.....	
Total in charge of Public Works Department	63,65,000	61,52,000	63,21,755	74,30,000	78,00,000	89,59,000	

[*Sir William Duke.*]

APPENDIX C.

Statement of receipts and charges of District Boards and District Road Fund in Bengal.

RECEIPTS.

HEADS OF REVENUE.	Actuals, 1912-13.	Revised estimate, 1913-14.	Budget estimate, 1914-15.	REMARKS.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Principal Heads of Revenue—				
I.—Land Revenue ...	236	449	459	
VI.—Local Rates ...	30,99,112	50,69,180	61,75,769	Both budget and revised include collections from Public Works Cess, which have been localized from 1913-14
XII.—Interest	16,798	21,676	28,925	Includes interest on arrear collections of Public Works Cess, from 1913-14.
Receipts by Civil Department—				
XVIA.—Law and Justice (Courts)	4,909	1,929	3,717	
XVII.—Police	3,68,005	3,51,322	3,52,850	Represents receipts from pounds.
XIX.—Education	11,73,708	14,27,000	7,23,024	Total amount estimated by the several District Boards for the Revised under this head is Rs. 9,62,497. This has been raised to include grants to District Boards for primary education, &c., as adopted in the Civil Estimates.
XX.—Medical	70,616	67,059	44,162	
XXI.—Scientific and other Minor Departments ...	11,687	10,379	8,391	
Miscellaneous—				
XXIII.—Stationery and Printing	1,462	1,900	1,900	
XXV.—Miscellaneous ...	3,25,804	1,48,009	28,869	
Railways	90,846	79,200	69,000	
Irrigation—				
XXX.—Irrigation—Minor Works and Navigation ...	24,983	23,840	17,205	
Other Public Works—				
XXXII.—Civil Works ...	13,33,952	12,66,331	9,72,615	
Debt, deposits and advances ...	8,65,312	5,40,344	4,70,004	
Total Revenue ...	73,87,430	90,08,618	88,96,830	
Opening balance	23,69,808	30,02,696	22,36,472	
GRAND TOTAL ...	97,57,238	1,20,11,314	1,11,33,302	

[*Sir William Duke.*]

CHARGES.

HEADS OF EXPENDITURE.	Actuals, 1912-13	Revised estimate, 1913-14.	Budget estimate, 1914-15.	REMARKS.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Direct Demands on the Revenue—				
3.—Land Revenue ...	...	2,340	2,260	
8.—Local rates	1,53,588	1,94,237	1,81,394	Budget represents provision for the entire charges of the cess-collecting establishment which is to be borne wholly by District Boards from 1913-14.
Interest—				
14.—Interest	11,206	8,131	7,572	
Salaries and expenses of Civil Departments—				
18.—General Administration ...	2,19,036	2,48,271	2,54,744	
19A —Law and Justice (Courts)	1,493	3,295	2,875	
20.—Police	22,897	27,351	27,566	
21.—Ports and Pilotage ...	3,114	9,140	7,100	
22.—Education	16,57,921	22,81,801	18,86,867	
24.—Medical	3,87,082	6,11,072	6,59,027	
26.—Scientific and other Minor Departments ...	65,296	87,343	90,770	
Miscellaneous Civil Charges—				
29.—Superannuation Allowances and Pensions ...	50,095	55,881	54,286	
30 —Stationery and Printing ...	23,777	29,424	29,855	
32.—Miscellaneous	20,106	53,622	35,574	
Famine Relief and Insurance—				
33.—Famine relief	70	2,620	.....	
Railways	...	...	24,000	
Irrigation—				
43.—Irrigation—Minor Works and Navigation ..	32,168	13,077	1,98,366	
Other Public Works—				
45.—Civil Works	35,66,666	55,67,101	53,02,329	
Military Services—				
Debt, deposits and advances ..	5,35,027	5,80,136	5,01,419	
Total Expenditure ...	67,54,542	97,74,842	92,66,994	
Closing Balance	30,02,696	22,36,472	18,66,308	
GRAND TOTAL ...	97,57,238	1,20,11,314	1,11,33,302	

TAKE DURING 1914-15.

Obligatory schemes which have been provided for in the Budget for 1914-15.

Budget head and head under which action has been	Nature of scheme.	Estimate of ultimate maximum cost.			Estimate of expenditure in 1914-15.			Remarks.
		Non-recurring.	Recurring.	Total.	Non-recurring.	Recurring.	Total.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Land Revenue.		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
of District Administration.	Appointment of an Additional District Magistrate for 24-Parganas.	.....	27,600	27,600	.....	27,600	27,600	3rd grade Magistrate ... ... 1,500 Average pay of a Joint-Magistrate 800 2,300 × 12 A reference has been made to the Government of India for sanction to the proposal.
Ditto ...	Purchase of iron-safes for treasuries and sub-treasuries.	10,000	.....	10,000	10,000	.....	10,000	The Inspector-General of Police in one of his inspection notes brought to notice that in certain treasuries and sub-treasuries notes are kept in wooden boxes which are not safe. Iron-safes should be supplied to these treasuries.
Ditto ...	Steam-launch for the Collector of Faridpur.	40,000	.....	40,000	40,000	.....	40,000	
	Total Land Revenue ...	50,000	27,600	77,600	50,000	27,600	77,600	
—*Excise* ...	House accommodation for Excise Inspectors, Sub-Inspectors, petty officers and peons.	2,15,725	20,000	2,35,725	50,000	.....	50,000	The ultimate cost is as below :— Non-recurring. Rs. Burdwan Division ... 53,700 Presidency „ ... 41,900 Dacca „ ... 37,750 Chittagong „ ... 22,725 Rajshahi „ ... 59,650 Total ... 2,15,725 It is proposed to provide for a non-recurring expenditure of Rs. 50,000 in 1914-15.

under which has been	Nature of scheme.	MAXIMUM COST.			IN 1914-15.			REMARKS.
		Non-recurring.	Recurring.	Total.	Non-recurring.	Recurring.	Total.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
ise—concld. ...	Construction of launches and boats.	1,04,400	12,400	1,16,800	50,000	.....	50,000	This is required for more efficient prevention of Excise offences than is possible at present. During 1914-15 the Excise Commissioner requires the following :— Rs. 1 launch ... 45,000 } for the districts of Khulna, Dacca, Mymensingh, Faridpur, Bakarganj, Chittagong and Hooghly. 26 boats and 22 dinghies ... 14,400 } It is proposed to provide a lump sum of Rs. 50,000.
	Total Excise ...	3,20,125	32,400	3,52,525	1,00,000	.....	1,00,000	
-Forests.								
rvancy and 'ks.	Reconstruction of Divisional bungalow at Kalimpong, Tista Division.	8,000	.....	8,000	8,000	.....	8,000	The bungalow was constructed so far back as 1879, and its reconstruction is necessary.
itto ...	Purchase of 2 elephants for Chittagong Hill Tracts Division.	6,000	.....	6,000	6,000	.....	6,000	This was sanctioned in 1912-13, but funds lapsed as no elephants were available for purchase in that year.
itto ...	Construction of 4 accommodation boats and 2 water boats for Sundarbans Division.	11,600	.....	11,600	11,600	.....	11,600	This is required to replace boats which are worn out and which cannot be economically repaired. Rs. 4 accommodation boats ... ... 8,000 2 water-boats 3,600
itto ...	New boilers for the launches of the Sundarbans Division.	10,500	.....	10,500	10,500	.....	10,500	New boilers for— S.L. *Hawk* ... ... 6,600 „ *Helen Grey* ... ... 3,900 The Dockyard authorities advise that these should be

	sional Officer's bungalow at Buxa Duar, Buxa Division.							
	Total Forests ...	44,100	.....	44,100	44,100	.....	44,100	
Registration.								
arges, Calcutta	Creation of a post of Registrar of Joint-Stock Companies.	.....	21,852	21,852	.....	17,736	17,736	The proposal has already been submitted to the Government of India for sanction.
harges—District istrars and istrars.	Increase of leave reserve	.....	10,000	10,000	.....	10,000	10,000	The present reserve calculated at 8 per cent. on the total cadre is insufficient, and it is proposed to raise it to 12 per cent.
Ditto ...	Increase of salaries of District Sub-Registrars.	.....	8,100	8,100	.....	8,100	8,100	The difference between the rate of salary of a District Sub-Registrar of grade IV and that of a Sub-Registrar of grade I is only Rs. 25. Considering the status and responsibility of an officer of the rank of District Sub-Registrar, there should be a larger difference. It is proposed that the pay of a District Sub-Registrar of grade IV should be Rs. 200 instead of Rs. 175; the rates of pay in the first, second and third grades of District Sub-Registrars should be increased also by Rs. 25.
	Total Registration ...	.....	39,952	39,952	.....	35,836	35,836	
w and Justice—urts of Law.								
rt	One Additional Judge and his establishment.	.....	53,148	53,148	.....	53,148	53,148	Additional Judge ... ... Rs. 48,000 Establishment 5,148

ıdget head and d under which ›n has been	Nature of scheme.	ESTIMATE OF ULTIMATE MAXIMUM COST.			ESTIMATE OF EXPENDITURE IN 1914-15.			REMARKS.
		Non-recurring.	Recurring.	Total.	Non-recurring.	Recurring.	Total.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
w and Justice— *ɔf Law*—contd.		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
rt ...	Entertainment of three shorthand-writers and one shorthand typist for the Original Side of the High Court.	.....	8,700	8,700	.....	4,500	4,500	The proposal has been sanctioned by the Government of India— Rs. 3 shorthand-writers ... 150—5—200 each. 1 shorthand typist ... 75—5—125 Provision has been made for 3 only in the budget for 1914-15. Rs. 2 head-clerks (80) ... ... 160 2 nazirs and cashiers (40) ... 80 4 Honorary Magistrates' Bench clerks (30) ... ... 120 2 comparing clerks (30) ... 60 4 orderlies (8) ... ... 32 2 durwans (8) ... ... 16 2 duftries (8) ... ... 16 Grant of an increase of Rs. 10 to each of the 2 office clerks ... 20 Rs. Total ... 504×12=6,048
y Magistrates, ı Police Court.	Entertainment of additional establishment for the new Police Courts in the northern and southern parts of the town.	.....	6,048	6,048	.....	6,048	6,048	
Ditto ...	Establishment of a Juvenile Court and House of detention for juvenile offenders in Calcutta.	8,000	9,400	17,400	8,000	9,400	17,400	
ɣ Conrt of Small	Reorganization of the office of the Small Cause Court, Calcutta.	.....	10,075	10,075	.....	10,075	10,075	To provide for the increase of pay of the Clerk of the Court from Rs. 400—20—500 to Rs. 500—40—700, the new appointment of an Assistant Clerk of the Court and other small increases in the office establishment at a cost of Rs. 839$\frac{7}{12}$ per mensem already sanctioned.

ing staff of Munsifs. The present allotted number of Subordinate Judges in Bengal is 6 in the first grade, 12 in the second grade and 24 in the third grade. The following additions to the cadre have been sanctioned :—

		Number.	Cost.
			Rs.
1st grade	on Rs. 1,000 ...	1	1,000
2nd "	" 800 ...	2	1,600
3rd "	" 600 ...	3	1,800
			4,400×12 =52,800

The sanctioned strength of Munsifs in Bengal is 245. The present and the sanctioned grading of Munsifs is as shown below :—

	Present number.	Sanctioned number.	Present cost.	Sanctioned cost.
			Rs.	Rs.
Special grade on Rs. 500	12	25	6,000	12,500
1st grade on Rs. 400 ...	61	49	24,400	19,600
2nd grade on Rs. 300 ...	70	66	21,000	19,800
3rd grade on Rs. 250 ...	66	70	16,500	17,500
4th grade on Rs. 200 ...	36	35	7,200	7,000
	245	245	75,100	76,400

The increase of cost on account of the regrading of Munsifs is therefore Rs. 76,400—75,100 = 1,300×12= Rs. 15,600.

The total cost involved in the reorganization of the Provincial Judicial Service and the regrading of Munsifs is Rs. 52,800+15,600=Rs. 68,400.

In the budget for 1913-14 a provision of Rs. 50,000 was made for the regrading of Munsifs. The sanction of the Secretary of State has just been received.

[*Sir William Duke.*]

t head and nder which has been	Nature of scheme.	Estimate of ultimate maximum cost.			Estimate of expenditure in 1914-15.			Remarks.
		Non-recurring.	Recurring.	Total.	Non-recurring.	Recurring.	Total.	
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
nd Justice— *aw*—concld.		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
sions Courts	Increase of the pay of the last grade of Munsifs from Rs. 200 to Rs. 250.	.....	21,000	21,000	.....	21,000	21,000	After the regrading referred to in the preceding item the value of 35 appointments on Rs. 200 will have to be raised to Rs. 250.
rts ...	Chaukidari panchayat—Appointment of additional 40 Sub-Deputy Collectors in connection with chaukidari circle system.	.....	88,800	88,800	.....	40,000	40,000	1st grade, 2 on Rs. 250 ... ... Rs. 500 2nd „ 6 „ 200 ... ... 1,200 3rd „ 12 „ 175 ... ... 2,100 4th „ 12 „ 150 ... ... 1,800 5th „ 8 „ 100 ... ... 800 6,400×12 =76,800 Allowance ... ... 12,000 In the budget for 1913-14 a provision of Rs. 15,000 was made for 20 officers for 4 months, but the Secretary of State has now sanctioned the addition of 40 posts. Some appointments will be made this year and more in next year. A provision of Rs. 40,000 will be necessary in 1914-15.
	Total Law and Justice—Courts of Law ...	8,000	2,65,571	2,73,571	8,000	2,12,571	2,20,571	
and Justice— *ls.*								
ent—Warder shment.	Improvement in the Jail Warders' service.	.....	64,252	64,252	.....	40,000	40,000	It is proposed to give better rates of pay to the warders, to increase the strength of the establishment, and to do away with local allowances, recruit warders, orderlies and reserve warders, etc. The existing and proposed rates of different grades are shown below :— Present. Rs. / Proposed. Rs. Chief Head Warder ... 30 to 35 } 35 & 32 Reserve Head Warder 30 to 35 }

								2nd ditto ... 25, 16 to 22, 20 } 24 3rd ditto ... 13 to 16, 16 } 18 1st grade Warders ... 10 2nd ditto ... 9 3rd ditto ... 8 Warders ... ... 10 to 13 } 12 to 15 One Female Warder ... 15 } Matron, 18 Female Warder ... 8 to 10-8 } 14 Ditto ... 10-1-13 } 12 to 14, 12
manufactures ...	Machinery for the Dacca Central Jail.	10,000	.....	10,000	10,000	.....	10,000	This is a proposal to fully equip the Dacca Jail for the production of jail manufactures like the Bhagalpur Jail, which is no longer under the control of this Government. This is expected to increase the receipts from jail manufactures.
	Total Law and Justice—Jails	10,000	64,252	74,252	10,000	40,000	50,000	
20.—Police.								
ncy Police—intendence ...	Conveyance allowance of Deputy Commissioner of Police.	.....	5,625	5,625	.....	5,625	5,625	The proposal has been sanctioned by the Government of India. They have ruled that if a 4-seated car is kept the allowance will be Rs. 150 per mensem, and for a 2-seated car Rs. 100 per mensem. The grant is also subject to the condition that a motor-car of not less than the seating capacity mentioned is actually maintained and used by officers in the course of their duties. The officers who keep horses in preference to a motor-car will be entitled to the horse allowance of Rs. 75, but not both allowances concurrently. Rs. Government share ... ... 5,625 Port Commissioners' share... ... 675 Total ... 6,300

lget head and under which has been	Nature of scheme.	Estimate of ultimate maximum cost.			Estimate of expenditure in 1914-15.			Remarks.
		Non-recurring.	Recurring.	Total.	Non-recurring.	Recurring.	Total.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
lice—contd.		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Police— Police ...	Additional Police force for Criminal Investigation Department and Special Branch, Calcutta.	.....	12,515	12,515	.....	12,258	12,258	Pay and allowance of three Sub-Inspectors and 13 Constables and local allowances of four Head-constables ... Rs. 9,144 House-rent ... ... 2,460 Contingencies ... ... 654 Total ... 12,258 The ultimate cost will increase with the increase of pay of Constables. The scheme was sanctioned with effect from 1st April 1913.
...	Additional Police staff in connection with the scheme for decentralization of the Police Court at Lal Bazar.	.....	13,115	13,115	.....	12,680	12,680	Pay of one Inspector, two Sub-Inspectors and 22 Constables... Rs. 9,240 rising to Rs. 9,636. Conveyance allowance ... 780 Clothing ... ... 236 House-rent ... ... 1,500 Contingencies ... ... 924 rising to Rs. 963. Total ... 12,680
...	Calcutta Police Training School.	4,878	28,577	33,455	4,878	28,577	33,455	Recurring— Pay of 2 Inspectors, 4 Sub-Inspectors, 22 Head-constables and two buglers Rs. 18,888 Allowances ... ... 2,952 Ministerial and menial establishment 1,164 Contingencies ... ... 1,889 House-rent ... ... 3,360 Clothing ... ... 324 Non-recurring— Iron cots 3,250

	thanas.							House-rent ... ... 540 Contingencies 360
...	Additional Police force to guard the Government Dockyard, Kidderpore.	508	6,132	6,640	508	5,492	6,000	Recurring— Pay and allowances of 1 Sub-Inspector, 2 Head-constables and 14 constables ... ... 4,404 Clothing ... ... 162 Contingencies ... ... 366 House-rent ... ... 1,200 Non-recurring— Initial charge on account of clothing ... 508 It has been proposed to make a lump provision of Rs. 6,000 in 1914-15.
...	Additional Police staff to regulate traffic at the landing stages of the Port Commissioners' ferry service.	.....	10,149	10,149	.....	9,350	9,350	2 Sergeants (100—$\frac{5}{2}$—125). 5 Head-constables, 1 (25), 2 (20), 2 (17-8). 20 Constables (10—13). Rs. Clothing ... ... 470 Mess allowance ... ... 480 House-rent ... ... 1,800 Contingencies 67
	Deduct debitable to Port Commissioners.	.....	6,766	6,766	.....	6,233	6,233	The cost is debitable to the Port Commissioners and Government in the proportion of 3 to 1. The scheme has already been sanctioned by Government in July 1913.
		.....	3,383	3,383	.....	3,117	3,117	
...	Provision for a steam-cutter and crew.	10,000	2,805	12,805	10,000	2,805	12,805	This is required for river traffic, and the Port Commissioners have agreed to this.
	Deduct debitable to Port Commissioners.	6,667	1,870	8,537	6,667	1,870	8,537	Rs. Rs. Cost of a steam-cutter ... ... 10,000 Pay of crew ... ... 1,065 Clothing ... ... 40 Contingencies 1,700 2,805
		3,333	935	4,268	3,333	935	4,268	The charge will be divided between the Port Commissioners and Government in the proportion of 3 to 1.

lget head and under which has been	Nature of scheme.	MAXIMUM COST.			IN 1914-15.			REMARKS.
		Non-recurring.	Recurring.	Total.	Non-recurring.	Recurring.	Total.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
olice—contd.		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
idence ..	Appointment of a fourth Range Deputy Inspector-General of Police.	31,000	24,600	55,600	1,000	24,600	25,600	At present there are three Range Deputy Inspectors-General—one for the eleven districts of the Presidency and Burdwan Divisions, one for the seven districts of the Dacca and Chittagong Divisions, and one for the eight districts of the Rajshahi Division. Experience has shown that the Presidency Range is too heavy and the Dacca Range requires thorough supervision, and it is proposed to appoint a 4th Range Deputy Inspector-General to give relief to these ranges. Recurring— Rs. Salary of Deputy Inspector-General ... 1,500 Establishment and contingencies ... 550 Non-recurring— Construction of house for the Deputy Inspector-General ... ... 30,000 Office furniture, etc. ... ... 1,000 It is proposed to provide only for the full recurring expenditure during 1914-15, and nothing for construction of the house.
)itto ...	Increase of office establishment of the Inspector-General of Police.	.....	6,000	6,000	.....	6,000	6,000	The Inspector-General has proposed to increase the establishment by the following staff to cope with the increased work :— Rs. 1 clerk ... ... 200 1 „ ... ... 150 1 „ ... ... 125 1 „ ... ... 100 1 „ ... ... 60 1 shorthand typist ... ... 100—125 2 typists ... ... 30—50 each.

Police	...	Strengthening of armed police detachments in subdivisions of Western Bengal districts.	4,230	15,990	20,220	4,230	15,990	20,220	The Government of India generally approved the scheme for strengthening the armed reserve in certain district head-quarters and for posting detachments in certain important subdivisions. The provision now made represents the cost of giving effect to this scheme with certain modifications which further consideration has shown to be necessary. It is proposed to replace Sergeants by Sub-Inspectors in some districts.
tto	...	Strengthening of armed police reserve.	3,080	10,854	13,934	3,080	10,854	13,934	The scheme for the reorganization of the subordinate police in Eastern Bengal does not provide for increase of armed reserve in the districts of Malda, Bogra and Noakhali, nor for a detachment at Serajganj in Pabna.
tto	...	Establishment of 15 armed posts in Madaripur.	3,990	12,168	16,158	.....	12,168	12,168	Monthly. Rs. Pay of Head-constables ... ... 225 Deputation allowance ... ... 166 Lighting charges for 15 posts ... 23 Hire of boats ... ... 600 The non-recurring expenditure will be incurred in 1913-14.
itto	...	Increase of pay of Sergeants and grant of local allowance.	.....	9,350	9,350	.....	9,000	9,000	It is proposed to raise the pay of 38 Sergeants from Rs. 90—126 to Rs. 100—125, and to grant local allowance to certain Sergeants at the rates of Rs. 15, 20 and 25 who are stationed at Dacca, Narainganj, Chittagong, Darjeeling, etc.
ditto	...	Armed posts in Dacca Division.	.....	27,720	27,720	.....	27,720	27,720	
ditto	...	Increase of cadre of Deputy Superintendents.	.....	17,100	17,100	.....	17,100	17,100	It is proposed to add eight new appointments— Rs. One 1st grade ... ... 500 Two 2nd „ at Rs. 400 each ... 800 Two 3rd „ „ 300 „ ... 600 Three 4th „ „ 250 „ ... 750 Allowance „ 25 ... ... 200 The excellent result obtained by posting gazetted Police officers in subdivisions is already recognised, and it is proposed to make a provision for the appointment of four Deputy Superintendents in the budget for 1914-15.

ıdget head and d under which n has been	Nature of scheme.	Estimate of ultimate maximum cost.			Estimate of expenditure in 1914-15.			Remarks.
		Non-recurring.	Recurring.	Total.	Non-recurring.	Recurring.	Total.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
ılice—concld.		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
ılice ...	Strengthening of head-quarters treasury guards.	800	5,786	6,586	800	5,586	6,386	Captain Macpherson of the Dacca Military Police, who was deputed to examine the present arrangement of guarding the several treasuries of the province, has recommended an extra force of 15 Head-constables and 25 Constables for the purpose.
to ...	Reorganization of the Military Police establishment.	36,948	52,249	89,197	26,948	52,249	79,197	This is awaiting the sanction of the Secretary of State.
to ...	Establishment of new police-stations in the Asansol subdivision of Burdwan district.	2,360	21,379	23,739	2,064	21,080	23,144	It has become necessary to increase the number of police-stations in Asansol subdivision owing to the abnormal number of burglaries and dacoities there. The provision made does not, however, include the cost of buildings.
to ...	Raising of the conveyance allowance of subordinate Police officers.	.....	42,900	42,900	.....	42,900	42,900	
to ...	Supply of mosquito nets to Head-constables and Constables.	.....	17,600	17,600	.....	17,600	17,600	1,527 men were provided with nets in 1912-13; 16,589 curtains at Rs. 3-3 each are required for the rest.
to ...	Supply of cots to Head-constables and Constables living in barracks.	10,000	.....	10,000	10,000	.....	10,000	The Inspector-General of Police proposed Rs. 33,000 for 1914-15, but it has been decided to reduce it to Rs. 10,000.
to ...	Station boat scheme ...	6,122	6,756	12,878	6,122	6,756	12,878	This scheme is being gradually introduced. In the budget for 1913-14, Rs. 45,000 was provided, and effect has been given in the districts of Dacca, Faridpur, Mymensingh and Tipperah. It is now proposed to extend the scheme to Bakarganj, Pabna, 24-Parganas and Khulna, and to employ additional

police cadre.

police for the district of the [illegible] Midnapore involves the addition of two posts of Superintendents, one of Assistant Superintendent and one of Deputy Superintendent—

(*a*) As regards Superintendents, the two posts have been proposed to be added to the third and fourth grades on Rs. 900 and Rs. 800, or the extra cost will amount to Rs. 1,700 per month.

(*b*) As regards the Assistant Superintendent, the proposal is that, with the addition of one post, the appointments should be regraded as follows :—

	Existing number.	Proposed number.	Existing cost.	Proposed cost.
			Rs.	Rs.
First grade on Rs. 500.	17	18	8,500	9,000
Second grade on Rs. 400.	17	18	6,800	7,200
Third grade on Rs. 300.	12	11	3,600	3,300
Total ...	46	47	18,900	19,500

The increase of cost per mensem on this account comes to Rs. 600.

(*c*) In regard to Deputy Superintendents, it is proposed to add the extra appointment to the fourth grade on Rs. 250.

(*d*) Besides the above there is a proposal for the grant of house-rent allowance, at the rate of Rs. 200 a month, to the Additional Superintendent at Alipore.

(*e*) Added to the above is the cost on account of the proposal made in the letter from this Government, No. 3518 A.—D., dated the 23rd September 1912, for the grant of a fixed conveyance allowance of Rs. 50 a month for the Deputy or Assistant Superintendent of Police in charge of the Dacca Town Police

dget head and under which has been	Nature of scheme.	Estimate of ultimate maximum cost.			Estimate of expenditure in 1914-15.			Remarks.
		Non-recurring.	Recurring.	Total.	Non-recurring.	Recurring.	Total.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
lice—contd.		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
								The total cost involved in the proposal thus comes to— Rs. (*a*) ... ... 1,700 (*b*) ... ... 600 (*c*) ... ... 250 (*d*) ... ... 200 (*e*) ... ... 50 2,800×12 =33,600 In the budget for 1913-14 Rs. 5,700 was provided for the additional Superintendents for three months of the year. A reference has been made to the Government of India for sanction to the proposal.
lice ...	Reorganization of the Subordinate Police in Eastern Bengal.	3,13,868	98,347	4,12,215	3,13,385	91,470	4,04,855	The whole scheme has been sanctioned by the Secretary of State, and effect is being given gradually. In the current year's budget there is a provision of Rs. 1,17,014 recurring and of Rs. 1,75,000 non-recurring.
...	Regrading of Sub-Inspectors and Head-constables in Eastern Bengal districts.	.....	37,800	37,800	.....	37,800	37,800	Sub-Inspectors— Addition of 8 appointments to 1st grade. " " 40 " " 2nd " " " 60 " " 3rd " Corresponding reduction in the 5th grade. Head-constables :— Addition of 150 appointments in 2nd grade by a corresponding reduction in the 3rd grade.
...	Increase of pay and privileges of Head-	.....	4,75,000	4,75,000	.....	4,75,000	4,75,000	The question has been submitted to the Government of India for orders.

...	Introduction of the station boat system in the district of Bakarganj.	5,000	2,808	7,808	.....	2,808	2,808	This has been sanctioned. The non-recurring charge will be incurred during the current year, 1913-14.
...	A launch for the Deputy Inspector-General of Police, Dacca.	48,287	10,465	58,752	12,000	6,135	18,135	The launch is under construction and Rs. 12,000 will be required to complete it in 1914-15.
...	A launch for the Assistant Superintendent of Police, Munshiganj.	34,837	8,267	43,104	34,837	4,101	38,938	
...	Alterations to the steam-launch *Warden*.	8,000	180	8,180	8,000	90	8,090	This launch is for the Assistant Superintendent of Police, Madaripur, and is at present quite unsuitable for the use of European officers. Certain alterations are therefore necessary.
...	Settling of *Karwal nuts* of the Rajshahi Division under the Criminal Tribes Act.	23,000	3,600	26,600	23,000	3,600	26,600	
...	Allowance to Police officers.	.....	14,721	14,721	.....	14,721	14,721	It has been decided to grant allowance to the Police officers in certain portions of Jalpaiguri and Darjeeling districts on account of expensive living and other disadvantages generally felt in those places.
vices ...	Purchase of the Charitable Dispensary at Mymensingh.	60,000	.....	60,000	60,000	.....	60,000	This is required for extension of the Mymensingh police-station, which has already been sanctioned.
...	Purchase of elephants ...	8,750	1,296	10,046	4,325	675	5,000	The Inspector-General of Police wanted two elephants —
								Recurring / Non-recurring Rs. / Rs. Dinajpur ... ... 660 / 4,326 Malda ... ... 636 / 4,425 A provision of Rs. 5,000 has only been made to enable him to provide for one elephant in 1914-15.
...	Supply of boxes to Police officers for safe custody of case diaries.	14,510	.....	14,510	4,527	.....	4,527	Rupees 10,053 was provided for in 1913-14, and the balance Rs. 4,527 is required in 1914-15.

get head and under which has been	Nature of scheme.	Estimate of ultimate maximum cost.			Estimate of expenditure in 1914-15.			Remarks.
		Non-recurring.	Recurring.	Total.	Non-recurring.	Recurring.	Total.	
. 1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
ice—concld.		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
e ...	Reorganization of the River Police.	5,15,059	74,352	5,89,411	4,50,263	71,512	5,21,775	This also has received the sanction of the Secretary of State, and effect is being given gradually as funds permit. In the current year's budget Rs. 1,49,555 recurring and Rs. 3,00,000 non-recurring have been provided. The non-recurring provision proposed for 1914-15 is chiefly intended for the following :— Rs. Floating thanas ... ... 96,384 2 Inspecting offices ... ... 62,000 12 Thana launches ... ... 1,58,400 Floating quarters for 2 Inspectors ... 21,600 Shipway and buildings at Narainganj 1,00,000
lice ...	Extra cost in connection with the division of the East Indian Railway jurisdiction between Bengal and Bihar.	92	6,618	6,710	92	6,186	6,278	
	Total Police ...	12,16,650	11,29,235	23,45,885	10,51,390	11,07,432	21,58,822	
Education.								
...	Assistant Director of Public Instruction for Muhammadan Education.	.....	26,720	26,720	.....	26,720	26,720	The provision represents the following :— Rs. Assistant Director of Public Instruction 8,400 Allowances ... ... 7,730 Establishment ... ... 3,720 Other charges 6,870
...	Revision of the office	.....	11,900	11,900	.....	11,900	11,900	

	tional Service and Subordinate Educational Service to enable the Presidency College to obtain affiliation in Botany and Physiology.							
...	Appointment of a whole-time Professor of Geology.	.....	14,400	14,400	.....	4,200	4,200	At present a part-time Professor with an allowance of Rs. 200 a month is doing the work. This is considered unsatisfactory.
...	Creation of 3 additional Provincial Educational Service appointments.	.....	10,200	10,200	.....	10,200	10,200	It is proposed to make following additional appointments :— Rs. 1 in class IV ... ... 400 1 „ „ V ... ... 350 1 „ „ VI ... ... 300 1,050 *Deduct* one in class VIII to be transferred to Bihar ... ... 200 Total ... 850
...	Personal and other allowances to Senior Professors and Heads of Colleges.	.....	10,000	10,000	.....	10,000	10,000	
Schools—								
School for	Additional stipends to be attached to the Training class, Eden High School, Dacca.	.....	5,364	5,364	.....	2,000	2,000	
	Total Education ...	.....	86,384	86,384	.....	72,820	72,820	

udget head and ad under which on has been	Nature of scheme.	ESTIMATE OF ULTIMATE MAXIMUM COST.			ESTIMATE OF EXPENDITURE IN 1914-15.			REMARKS.
		Non-recurring.	Recurring.	Total.	Non-recurring.	Recurring.	Total.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
.—*Medical.*								Rs.
Schools and ɔs.	Proposal to make the temporary Serological Laboratory at the Medical College permament.	.....	34,600	34,600	.....	34,008	34,008	Salary of Lieut.-Col. Sutherland (1,950) ... 23,400 Exchange compensation allowance ... 1,248 Salary of Assistant Surgeon (280) ... ... 3,360 Pay of three menials (9) ... ... 324 Laboratory expense ... ... 5,196 One Laboratory Assistant (40—60) ... 480
Ditto ...	Staff of the Tropical School of Medicine.	.....	10,800	10,800	.....	5,000	5,000	Allowance to Principal ... ... 2,400 Ditto Professor of Pathology ... 2,400 Ditto ditto Biology ... 2,400 Salary of two Demonstrators (150) ... 3,600 As the school is likely to be started in November 1914, a lump provision of Rs. 5,000 has been made.
to Hospitals, ıal Hospitals and saries.	Improvement of nursing arrangements in mufassal.	.....	25,000	25,000	.....	25,000	25,000	
al Medical ...	.....	.....	70,400	70,400	.....	64,008	64,008	
ntific and other ɔr Departments.								
ry and Stallion s.	Construction of Veterinary dispensaries at district head-quarters.	6,000	.....	6,000	6,000	.....	6,000	The District Boards are generally opposed to spend money on this account. It is necessary for Government to help them.
ıre	Revision of the whole Sericultural establishment.	.....	10,809	10,809	.....	5,809	5,809	It has been decided to abolish model nurseries and to establish central nurseries in their places for the supply of disease-free seed to the rearers of the province. In order to make this scheme a success, it is necessary

	Amrita.							asked for in 1913-14 and the balance has been proposed for 1914-15.
...	Cross-breeding experiments.	33,300	.....	33,300	9,000	.....	9,000	The scheme is to cross-breed European silk-worms with the Indian races, in order to find out what kind of worms will give the best result.
...	For new non-recurring expenditure in the Agricultural Department.	1,00,000	.....	1,00,000	1,00,000	.....	1,00,000	A lump provision has been made for non-recurring expenditure.
	Total Scientific and other Minor Departments.	1,68,300	14,734	1,83,034	1,36,000	9,734	1,45,734	
ery and ıg.								
the Presi- shment.	Allowance to the establishment of the Forms Department.	.....	10,084	10,084	.....	10,000	10,000	This is a proposal to grant an allowance of 33 per cent. to the establishment of the Forms Department for attending office (Jail Press) from morning to dusk in view of the proposed introduction of jail hours to the Forms Branch on its amalgamation with the Jail Press.
ıil Press— Services.	Cost of Europe stores ...	6,050	.....	6,050	6,050	.....	6,050	The Superintendent of the New Central Jail wants to purchase two new printing machines and one ruling machine to cope with the increase of work. Rs. Cost of stores ... ... 5,600 Freight, etc. 450
	Total Stationery and Printing.	6,050	10,084	16,134	6,050	10,000	16,050	

Head.		Non-recurring.	Recurring.	Total.	Non-recurring.	Recurring.	Total.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Irrigation—Minor Works and Navigation charge of the Public Works Department.	Works in connection with the Jessore Drainage Division.	2,75,000	.....	2,75,000	20,000	.....	20,000	
	Dredging the entrances of the Bhagirathi and Gorai rivers.	.....	16,000	16,000	.....	16,000	16,000	Rupees 7,000 provided for the Gorai in 1913-14.
	Flood damage repairs ...	4,26,000	.....	4,26,000	2,12,000	.....	2,12,000	This is required to make good the damage done to the embankments by the Damodar flood.
	Total ...	7,01,000	16,000	7,17,000	2,32,000	16,000	2,48,000	
	Provincial share ...	3,50,000	8,000	3,58,000	1,16,000	8,000	1,24,000	
	GRAND TOTAL ...	21,73,225	17,48,612	39,21,837	15,21,540	15,88,001	31,09,541	

ADJOURNMENT.

The Council was then adjourned to Thursday, the 2nd April, 1914, at 11 A.M.

A. W. WATSON,

Secretary to the Bengal Legislative Council.

CALCUTTA;

The 30th March, 1914.

B. S. Press—26-5-1914—4508J—500—G D.

Abstract of the Proceedings of the Bengal Legislative Council assembled under the provisions of the Indian Councils Acts, 1861, 1892 and 1909, and the Government of India Act, 1912.

THE Council met in the Council Chamber in Government House on Thursday, the 2nd April, 1914, at 11 A.M.

Present:

His Excellency the Right Hon'ble THOMAS DAVID, BARON CARMICHAEL OF SKIRLING, G.C.I.E., K.C.M.G., Governor of the Presidency of Fort William in Bengal, *presiding*.

The Hon'ble SIR FREDERICK WILLIAM DUKE, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., *Vice-President*.

The Hon'ble MR. P. C. LYON, C.S.I.

The Hon'ble NAWAB SYED SHAMS-UL-HUDA.

The Hon'ble MR. C. J. STEVENSON-MOORE, C.V.O.

The Hon'ble MR. F. J. MONAHAN.

The Hon'ble MR. J. G. CUMMING, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. J. H. KERR, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. H. L. STEPHENSON, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. H. F. SAMMAN.

The Hon'ble MR. H. H. GREEN.

The Hon'ble LT.-COL. A. C. DEL. JOLY DE LOTBINIÈRE, C.S.I., C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. B. B. NEWBOULD

The Hon'ble MR. C. H. BOMPAS.

The Hon'ble MR. W. W. HORNELL.

The Hon'ble MR. C. F. PAYNE.

The Hon'ble RAI PRIYA NATH MUKHARJI BAHADUR

The Hon'ble COL. G. F. A. HARRIS, C.S.I.

The Hon'ble MR. H. J. HILARY.

The Hon'ble NAWAB SIR KHWAJA SALIMULLAH BAHADUR G.C.I.E., K.C.S.I.

The Hon'ble DR. NILRATAN SARKAR.

The Hon'ble RAJA HRISHIKESH LAHA, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. R. GLEN.

The Hon'ble MR. BYOMKES CHAKRAVARTI.

The Hon'ble SIR BIJAY CHAND MAHTAB, K.C.S.I., K.C.I.E., I.O.M., Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan.

The Hon'ble MAHARAJA JAGADINDRA NATH RAY.

The Hon'ble DR. DEBA PRASAD SARBADHIKARI.

The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble MR. NORMAN MCLEOD.

The Hon'ble MR. W. T. GRICE.

The Hon'ble MR. G A. BAYLEY.

The Hon'ble MR. A. W. C. CHAPLIN.

The Hon'ble MR. GOLAM HOSSEIN CASSIM ARIFF.

The Hon'ble MAULVI MAZHARUL ANWAR CHAUDHURI.

The Hon'ble MAULVI MUSHARRAF HUSAIN.

The Hon'ble MAULVI A. K. FAZ-UL-HAQ.

The Hon'ble NAWAB SAIYID HOSSAM HAIDER CHAUDHURI, KHAN BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble MAHARAJA RANAJIT SINHA of Nashipur.

The Hon'ble RAI NALINAKSHA BASU BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble NAWAB SAIYID NAWAB ALI CHAUDHURI, KHAN BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble BABU PRASANNA KUMAR RAY.

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI.

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH RAY.

The Hon'ble BABU MAHENDRA NATH RAY.

The Hon'ble RAI HARI MOHAN CHANDRA BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble BABU UPENDRA LAL RAY.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 1.

By the Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR :—

* 1. (*a*) Are there any proposals before Government for the revision of the scale of travelling and horse allowance payable to Inspectors and Sub-Inspectors of the Vaccination Department ?

Travelling allowance, etc., of Inspectors and Sub-Inspectors of the Vaccination Department.

(*b*) If so, will the Government be pleased to state what these proposals are, and in what manner and for what reasons they differ from the system hitherto in force ?

(*c*) Is it a fact that Inspectors and Sub-Inspectors are not allowed to put up at Dâk Bungalows and Inspection Bungalows ? If so, why ?

The Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN replied :—

1. (*a*) & (*b*) The scale of travelling and horse allowance payable to Inspectors and Sub-Inspectors of the Vaccination Department was revised as recently as November last. No proposals for its further revision are before Government

(*c*) Dâk Bungalows are intended for travellers. The rules make no distinction in favour of Inspectors or Sub-Inspectors of Vaccination or any other public officers. Every traveller can claim shelter for 24 hours in a Dâk Bungalow on payment of a fee of Re. 1, and no traveller can claim shelter for more than 24 hours.

Inspection Bungalows are of two kinds, viz., those of the Public Works Department and those of the District Boards. The former are constructed with the object of enabling officers of the Public Works Department to supervise their work, and they have the first right to occupy them. Non-gazetted officers of other departments are not ordinarily entitled to occupy them, but the Superintending Engineer has the power to grant special permission in exceptional cases for particular periods, but such permit must be granted to individual officers by name in each case. The case of Inspectors and Sub-Inspectors is governed by these rules.

For District Board Inspection Bungalows the rules are framed by the District Board concerned.

By the Hon'ble NAWAB SAIYID NAWAB ALI CHAUDHURI, KHAN BAHADUR :—

* 2. Are the Government considering the desirability of introducing a system of consolidated pay in the Lower Subordinate Educational Service in place of the present system of progressive pay ?

Consolidated pay for the Lower Subordinate Educational Service.

The Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN replied :—

2. The Hon'ble Member is referred to the answer given to Question No. III (unstarred), asked by the Hon'ble Babu Prasanna Kumar Ray at the meeting of the 26th March, 1914."

By the Hon'ble NAWAB SAIYID NAWAB ALI CHAUDHURI, KHAN BAHADUR :—

* 3. Will the Government be pleased to state—

(*i*) what is the actual number of State scholarships granted during the last five years to students proceeding from this Presidency for a course of training in Forestry at Dehra Dun, and

State scholarships for training in Forestry.

(*ii*) how many of them were granted to Muhammadans ?

The Hon'ble MR. KERR replied :—

3. (*i*) The total number of Government stipendiaries deputed for training at the Forest Research Institute and College, Dehra Dun, from Bengal, as at present constituted, during the five years from 1909 to 1913, was 16.

(*ii*) One of these was a Muhammadan.

By the Hon'ble NAWAB SAIYID NAWAB ALI CHAUDHURI, KHAN BAHADUR :—

Proposed amendment of Bengal Municipal Act 1884 (Ben. Act III of 1884).

* 4. Will the Government be pleased to state whether there is any proposal before them for amending the Bengal Municipal Act (Ben. Act III of 1884), with a view to the grant to municipalities of more extensive powers for the prevention of the adulteration of food-stuffs ?

The Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN replied :—

4. The whole question of the prevention of adulteration of food and drugs is at present under the consideration of Government, but it is not possible at this stage to say whether the Bengal Municipal Act (Bengal Act III of 1884) will be amended for that purpose.

By the Hon'ble NAWAB SAIYID NAWAB ALI CHAUDHURI, KHAN BAHADUR :—

Amalgamation of the cadre of the Provincial Educational Service.

* 5. Will the Government be pleased to state whether the details regarding the amalgamation of the cadre of the Provincial Educational Service in both parts of the Presidency have been worked out and, if so, whether it is proposed that all existing vacancies should be filled up with retrospective effect ?

The Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN replied :—

5. The amalgamation of the cadre is under consideration. The question of the date from which promotions shall be made is also being considered, but no decision has yet been arrived at. These matters are of much importance and difficulty, and have engaged the earnest attention of Government for some time past. It is hoped to pass final orders upon them at a very early date.

By the Hon'ble NAWAB SAIYID NAWAB ALI CHAUDHURI, KHAN BAHADUR :—

Disintegration of the Educational Service.

* 6. (*a*) Is it the intention of Government to disintegrate the whole of the Educational Service into three separate branches, namely, the teaching, inspecting and clerical ?

(*b*) If so, what measures are Government taking to relieve the block of promotion which will result from such disintegration ?

The Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN replied :—

6. (*a*) The future of the Education Service, as a whole, will not be decided till the Royal Commission on Public Services has submitted its report and orders have been passed on any recommendation that it may make.

(*b*) The question does not arise.

By the Hon'ble NAWAB SAIYID NAWAB ALI CHAUDHURI, KHAN BAHADUR :—

Teaching of Arabic and Persian in certain high English schools.

* 7. (*a*) Are the Government aware that there are many high English schools whose teaching staff does not include any teachers of Arabic or Persian ?

(*b*) If so, are the Government considering the desirability of insisting upon the appointment of such teachers in the case of those high schools which are in receipt of aid from Government ?

The Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN replied :—

7. (*a*) There are in the Presidency of Bengal only five Government schools in which there is no Persian or Arabic teacher, and in these five schools there are no Muhammadan pupils. In the Dacca and Chittagong Divisions all high schools attended by Muhammadan boys have either a Persian or an Arabic teacher, and in the Rajshahi Division all the aided high schools are provided with Maulvis. Persian teachers, where necessary, are being insisted on as a condition of aid.

In the Burdwan and Presidency Divisions there are several aided schools which have no Persian or Arabic teachers, but it is reported that in some of these schools the Muhammadan pupils are very few in number and in the others they study Sanskrit in preference to Arabic or Persian.

(*b*) In the East Bengal Divisions grants-in-aid are given to schools only on condition that they employ Arabic or Persian teachers. In the West Bengal Divisions the same condition is usually enforced, but less rigorously.

By the Hon'ble NAWAB SAIYID NAWAB ALI CHAUDHURI, KHAN BAHADUR :—

* 8. (*a*) Are the Government aware that there are many high schools on the managing committee on which the interest of Muhammadans is not duly represented ?

(*b*) Are the Government taking any action to remedy this state of affairs in the case of such high schools as are in receipt of aid from public funds ?

R of inte m a com English schools.

The Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN replied :—

8. (*a*) Government are aware that the Muhammadan element on the managing committees of many high schools is weak. In Eastern Bengal the Divisional Commissioner and in West Bengal the Collector of the district is consulted before the committee of an aided high school is first formed, and every endeavour is made to select members representative of all classes of the community, but until recently it has frequently been impossible to find Muhammadans duly qualified to serve on these committees. In the case of Government high schools, the managing committees are composed for the most part (in West Bengal entirely) of *ex-officio* members.

(*b*) The general question of the future constitution of managing committees for high schools is now under the consideration of Government. The point raised by the Hon'ble Member will be fully examined in this connection.

By the Hon'ble BABU UPENDRA LAL RAY :—

* 9. (*a*) Are the Government aware of the representation made from time to time to the Assam-Bengal Railway authorities, as well as to the Government, for the construction of a bridge over the Dakatia river near the railway station at Chandpur in the district of Tippera ?

Construction of bridge over the Dakatia river near the Chandpur railway station.

(*b*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether it is intended to construct such a bridge ; if so, when is the project likely to be taken in hand ?

The Hon'ble MR. GREEN replied :—

9. (*a*) Government have not received any representation on the subject of the construction of a bridge over the Dakatia river near the railway station at Chandpur, nor are they aware that such representation has been made to the Assam-Bengal Railway.

(*b*) Government have no information on the subject.

By the Hon'ble BABU UPENDRA LAL RAY :—

Feni High English School.

* 10. (*a*) Has the attention of Government been drawn to a letter, purporting to be written by the Inspector of Schools, Chittagong Division, reproduced in the "Amrita Bazar Patrika", "Bengalee", and "Herald", newspapers in which that officer demands—

(*i*) the dismissal of Babu Kailas Chandra Chakrabarti, Head Master, Feni High English School,

(*ii*) the abolition of the existing school committee, and

(*iii*) the formation of a new committee as nominated by himself,

and threatens the discontinuance of the Government grant of Rs. 175 a month if these demands are not complied with ?

(*b*) Will the Government be pleased to state the circumstances in which the Inspector of Schools has demanded the dismissal of the said Head Master and the abolition of the existing committee ?

The Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN replied :—

10. (*a*) The answer is in the affirmative.

(*b*) The school was in such a bad state that it was impossible to continue to make a grant-in-aid to it from Government funds unless prompt steps were taken to introduce radical reforms. The whole matter is still under the consideration of the Educational Department, and no further statement can be made on the subject at present.

By the Hon'ble BABU UPENDRA LAL RAY :—

Construction of a residence for the Principal of the Chittagong Government College.

* 11. (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the circuit-house at Chittagong is now being used as a residence for the Principal of the local Government College ?

(*b*) If so, will the Government be pleased to state whether it is intended to construct a separate residence for the Principal of the said College ?

The Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN replied :—

11. (*a*) The answer is in the affirmative.

(*b*) The question is now under the consideration of Government.

By the Hon'ble BABU UPENDRA LAL RAY :—

The Provincial Educational Service.

* 12. (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether, and, if so, when, the existing vacancies in the Provincial Educational Service will be filled up ?

(*b*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether the said vacancies will be filled up with retrospective effect ?

The Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN replied :—

12. (*a*) The existing vacancies in the Provincial Educational Service will be filled up shortly, but no definite date can be fixed.

(*b*) The question of the date from which the promotions will have effect is under the consideration of Government, and it is hoped that a very early decision will be arrived at.

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS.

By the Hon'ble BABU PRASANNA KUMAR RAY :—

Raising of the minimum pay of clerks in the subordinate offices in Calcutta.

1. (*a*) Are the Government aware that the clerks in the establishment of the various subordinate Government offices in Calcutta, who draw the minimum pay of Rs. 30 per mensem, find it difficult to meet their expenses owing to the high cost of living in Calcutta ?

By the Hon'ble BABU PRASANNA KUMAR RAY—*concld.* :—

(*b*) Is it a fact that the minimum pay of these clerks (Rs. 30 per mensem) is the same as that drawn by clerks in corresponding positions in the mufassal?

(*c*) If so, will the Government be pleased to state whether they are considering the desirability of raising the minimum pay of clerks in Calcutta?

The following answer by the Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON was laid on the table :—

I. (*a*) The minimum pay of Rs. 30 for Government officers in Calcutta was fixed after a careful inquiry into the organization of the Bengal Secretariat and Government are not aware that the minimum is insufficient.

(*b*) The Ministerial Officers' Salaries Committees fixed the minimum pay of clerks in district offices in Western Bengal at Rs. 25, and in Eastern Bengal at Rs. 30.

(*c*) The answer is in the negative.

By the Hon'ble MAHARAJA RANAJIT SINHA OF NASHIPUR :—

Jessore Drainage Engineering Division.

II. (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state what action, if any, has up to date been taken by the Jessore Drainage Engineering Division?

(*b*) Has any *ad interim* report been submitted by the Engineer-in-Charge?

The following answer by the Hon'ble LT.-COL. DEL. JOLY DE LOTBINIERE was laid on the table :—

II. (*a*) Investigations have been in progress since November 1912 into the drainage conditions of the tract of country lying between the Ichamati on the west and the Bhairab on the east. This part of the Jessore district is reported to be the most seriously affected. Some investigations in the north of the district have also been made, but in no detail. The drainage project, which is the result of these investigations, is said to be almost complete and will be submitted shortly to Government. No more definite pronouncement can be made on the subject until the scheme has been received and considered.

(*b*) The reply is in the affirmative.

By the Hon'ble MAHARAJA RANAJIT SINHA OF NASHIPUR :—

Utilization of additional grants on account of Public Works cesses by District Boards.

III. (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state for what purposes the different District Boards of this Presidency have utilized the additional grants on account of the Public Works cess received by them during the financial year 1913-1914?

(*b*) Are the Government considering the desirability of ear-marking a portion of such grants for the purposes of medical aid, sanitary improvement, and water-supply?

The following answer by the Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN was laid on the table :—

III. (*a*) Government have no information at present how these grants are being utilized by District Boards.

(*b*) The grants were made unconditionally for the year 1913-14 as there was insufficient time to consider fully whether any, and, if so, what, conditions should be attached to them. The policy to be adopted in future years will be discussed after the passing of the Bill to amend the Cess Act (Ben. Act IX of 1880), so as to legalise the transfer of the Public Works cess to Rural Boards.

By the Hon'ble MAULVI A. K. FAZ-UL-HAQ :—

Promotion of Government servants serving on extension.

IV. (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether there is any rule against the promotion of Government servants to whom an extension of service has been given?

(*b*) Will the Government be pleased to state what considerations prevail in the matter of granting extensions of service to officers?

(*c*) Are there any settled rules on the subject, or are these matters left to the unfettered discretion of heads of departments or any other final authority?

The following answer by the Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON was laid on the table :—

IV. (*a*) There is no rule against the promotion of Government servants to whom an extension of service has been given.

(*b*) & (*c*) The Hon'ble Member is referred to the answer given to a similar question by the Hon'ble Mr. K. B. Dutt at a meeting of the Bengal Legislative Council, held on the 26th February, 1910.

By the Hon'ble MAULVI A. K. FAZ-UL-HAQ :—

Punitive Police in the Basirhat subdivision.

V. (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that punitive chaukidars have been posted in several villages in the Basirhat subdivision?

(*b*) If so, will the Government be pleased to state the reason for this measure, and the period for which it has been sanctioned?

The following answer by the Hon'ble MR. CUMMING was laid on the table :—

V. (*a*) & (*b*) It is not a fact that punitive chaukidars have been posted in several villages in the Basirhat subdivision. In consequence of four attempts to derail trains on the Barasat-Basirhat Railway, which occurred during the year 1913, four additional chaukidars were appointed by the District Magistrate in different villages of the Basirhat subdivision from the 20th November, 1913, and have been employed in patrolling portions of the line. Reports have been received of two further attempts at derailment on the same line which occurred in January and February, 1914.

By the Hon'ble MAULVI A. K. FAZ-UL-HAQ :—

Scheme for the reorganization of the office establishment of the Director of Public Instruction.

VI. (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether a scheme of reorganization of the office establishment of the Director of Public Instruction was framed some time in 1912?

(*b*) If so, will the Government be pleased to state whether there is any prospect of effect being given to the scheme in the near future?

The following answer by the Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN was laid on the table :—

VI. (*a*) The answer is in the affirmative.

(*b*) The proposals are now under the consideration of this Government, who hope to be in a position to pass orders upon them shortly.

By the Hon'ble MAULVI A. K. FAZ-UL-HAQ :—

Inspectors of Mohammadan Education.

VII. (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether the promised appointments of Inspectors of Muhammadan Education for each division of the Presidency have yet been made?

(*b*) If not, will the Government be pleased to state the cause or causes of delay?

Mr. Samman; Maulvi A. K. Faz-ul-Haq; Sir William Duke.

The following answer by the Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN was laid on the table:—

VII. (*a*) The appointments have been sanctioned and officers selected to fill them.

(*b*) This question does not arise.

SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION.

The Hon'ble MAULVI FAZ-UL-HAQ said:—

"With reference to the unstarred Question No. VII, may I be permitted to ask if these appointments were made before or after I sent notice?"

The Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN said:—

"The appointments have been made since the Hon'ble Member gave notice."

LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS.

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM NO. 2.

THE BENGAL EXCISE (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1914.

2. The Hon'ble Sir William Duke moved for leave to introduce a Bill to amend the Bengal Excise Act, 1909.

He said:—

"My Lord, this is another of the measures of legislative unification, which have been rendered necessary by the redistribution of the provinces. The Act in force in the Presidency and Burdwan Divisions and the district of Darjeeling is Bengal Act V of 1909, while Eastern Bengal and Assam Act I of 1910 is the law applicable to the eastern divisions. These acts were passed very near the same time. They are framed upon the same model, and intrinsically it makes little difference which of them is selected for continuance and which for repeal. In West Bengal, however, a complete Excise Manual based upon the new Act was published over two years ago, while no manual has ever been published in East Bengal. This fact determines the selection of Bengal Act V of 1909.

The opportunity has been taken to introduce a certain number of minor amendments. One of these—clause 3—is designed to get rid of doubts which have accumulated about the words "intoxicating liquor" by substituting for them the words "alcoholic liquor" which make it clear that the presence of alcohol is the sole test.

Clause 4—Eliminates the Board of Revenue in all the places in which under the existing law it performs executive functions. Since the Board was reduced to a single member it has been necessary to lighten its duties by relieving it of as many as possible of its non-statutory functions. Amongst others the administration of excise has been taken over by Government, leaving of course the statutory appellate functions of the Board unimpaired.

Clause 5—Is intended to give precision to the law relating to cocaine and drugs prepared from it or of similar character, the greatly extended use of which invests them with increasing importance.

Clause 6—Gives control under the Excise Act of the importation of excisable articles from foreign territory like Chandernagore, on the frontiers of which no custom houses have been established.

Clause 18—Increases the penalties for offences in respect of cocaine, which have recently become so numerous and demoralising. The penalties

provided are the same as are already in force in Bombay. It is obviously undesirable that lower penalties should attach to smuggling into one principal Indian port than to another.

Clause 19—Is designed to deal with the offence of attempting to restore to a potable condition spirit which has been denatured and so has escaped payment of the full duty. It is a very difficult offence to detect in operation, and it has been thought necessary to apply a *primâ facie* presumption of guilty knowledge to the possession of spirit which has been tampered with in this way. At the same time, to prevent harassment by petty charges and for the protection of possible *bonâ-fide* purchasers of small quantities, no unfavourable presumption is allowed against possessors of quantities not exceeding half a gallon.

Clause 24—Provides for the composition of petty offences against the Act, which it may not be necessary to bring into Court.

These are the more important new provisions which the Council will have to consider. Most of the rest are unimportant or have been introduced to embody in the law points of procedure which are actually in force in East Bengal.

It is the intention of Government to refer the Bill to a Select Committee at the first meeting of Council which will be held in the rains."

The motion was put and agreed to.

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 3.

THE BENGAL MEDICAL BILL, 1914.

3. The Hon'ble Mr. Stephenson moved that the report of the Select Committee on the Bengal Medical Bill, 1914, be taken into consideration.

The motion was put and agreed to.

DISCUSSION OF AMENDMENTS.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 1.—The Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Faz-ul-Haq moved that the words "of whom three at least shall be registered practitioners ordinarily residing outside Calcutta" be added after the words "Local Government" in line 2 of clause *4* (*b*).

He said :—

"I think, my Lord, that the amendment which I now put forward for the consideration of the Council speaks for itself. It will be seen that by the provisions that have been made by clause 4, the minimum representation of two mufassal members has been secured for the medical Council. I think Hon'ble Members will bear me out when I say that this representation is not adequate so far as mufassal interests are concerned, and it is with a view to safeguard the interests of medical practitioners in the mufassal that I beg to move that provision should be made that, as regards the nominated members, three at least shall be medical practitioners residing in the mufassal.

With these words, my Lord, I commend this amendment for the consideration of the Council."

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON said :—

"I think the mover of the amendment proceeds under a misapprehension as to the electorate set up by the Select Committee. The Select Committee have set up three electorates from the medical practitioners, and they have also given Government nominations for a majority of the Council. The reasons why they have given the Government a majority of nominated members of the Council has been explained by me before—that the Act is an experiment. Government must guide this experiment for the first year or so at all events, and the only alternative to having a Government-nominated majority on the Council is that Government should retain to themselves so close

control over the actions of the Council that the Council will be a nonentity. We decided therefore to give Government nominations for the majority of the members of the Council, but it is not intended that Government should use those nominations to represent interests. They are to nominate the best men they can find in the medical profession. I think the situation is entirely different when you come to the electorate. The Select Committee divided the medical profession as a whole into three classes—three electorates—and we felt that in the case of at least two of the three electorates, it was very likely that the Calcutta interest would be so predominant, that the mufassal practitioners might feel that they were being left out of it altogether. We therefore provided that in their case one member at least should be elected. But that argument does not apply in the case of nominations ; the nominations are not to represent interests, but they are to place on the Council the very best medical men that Government can procure, and I think that it would be a great mistake in any way to hamper Government's choice in the selection of the men to be put on the Council. I therefore oppose the amendment."

The Hon'ble MAULVI A. K. FAZ-UL-HAQ said :—

"My Lord, it is not in a spirit of hostility that I move this amendment. The Hon'ble Member in charge mentioned that I was under a misapprehension. I hope, my Lord, the Hon'ble Member will pardon me when I say that he himself has proceeded under a misapprehension of the spirit which actuated me in moving this amendment. I do not wish to restrict or question the power of nomination of Government. That must remain as it is. But I propose that, in making these nominations, at least three members shall be mufassal representatives, and it is no doubt necessary that the best men should be selected ; but I think it will not be difficult to find men practising in the mufassal and belonging to the medical profession who can be considered fit to occupy a place in the medical Council. It is only to protect mufassal interests that I want to provide for due representation of at least three members of the medical Council If it is not acceptable to Government, I do not wish to take up the time of this Council by useless argument."

The motion was then, by leave of the President, withdrawn.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 2.—The Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Ray moved that the words "of whom three at least shall not be Government servants or in receipt of any pay or allowance from Government" be added after the words "Local Government" in line 2 of clause 4 (*b*).

He said :—

"My Lord, my object in moving this amendment is that there should not be a very large number of official members on this Council. There may be a majority of official members in the Council, but the clause, as it is framed, will give not only a large number of official members, but perhaps about three-fourths of the members will be officials. It appears that the President is to be nominated by the Local Government. We can very well assume that he is to be an official, because in another public body (I mean the University of Calcutta), it is after 60 years that we have got a non-official Vice-Chancellor. We shall have to wait for at least a quarter of a century to see a non-official gentleman appointed as President of this Council. In clause 4 we see that a member is to be elected from among the members of the Faculty of Medicine by the Senate of the University of Calcutta. Only this morning I consulted the Calendar of the Calcutta University, and I saw that, out of 16 members of the Faculty of Medicine, there are 12 officials and only 4 non-officials ; we can very well assume that the gentleman who will be elected by the Senate of the Calcutta University will be an official. Then one member is to be elected by the

registered practitioners who are qualified to be registered under the Medical Acts. Probably he will be a non-official member. Then there are three members to be elected by registered practitioners who are graduates or licentiates in medicine or surgery of the University of Calcutta. One member shall in each case be elected by registered medical practitioners practising outside Calcutta. So that of the three members to be elected under clause (*e*) and the two members to be elected under clause (*f*)—at least two should be elected by registered practitioners outside Calcutta; and, with reference to these two members, I think if the Civil Surgeon of a district wishes to become a member he is sure to be elected, and no non-official will be elected. We can very well assume that these two members will also be officials. So that what I say is that it is not only intended that a majority of the members will be officials, but that about three-fourths of the members will be officials if the clause be left as it is. In these circumstances, I think Government would do well if they were to accept the amendment proposed by me. Government have thought it proper to give a non-official majority to the Legislative Council. Government have thought it proper to give a non-official majority to municipalities, and Government have thought it proper to give a non-official majority to District Boards. I really cannot understand why there should be such a predominance of official members in this Medical Council. With these words, I beg to move this amendment."

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON said :—

"I am afraid I must oppose this amendment on the same ground as I opposed the last, viz., that the whole object of giving Government nominations is to enable Government to put the best men they can get on the Council. There is no reason whatever why Government should not put a Government servant on the Council, if that Government servant is in their opinion the best man available. If a non-official is the best man available, then Government will put a non-official on. But I object very strongly to this separation of officials and non-officials in the case of the medical profession. The whole object of the Bill is to improve the medical profession as a whole. I fail to see why, because a medical practitioner is in the service of Government, his views on the medical profession should be different from those of one who is not in the service of Government. I do not propose to deal with that point specifically here, because there are several other amendments which bring the matter up more closely. This particular amendment operates to hamper the choice of Government in the nomination of the members of the Council, and on that account I oppose it."

The motion was then put and lost.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 3.—The Hon'ble Babu Mahendra Nath Ray moved that the word "non-official" be inserted between the word "the" and the word "members" in lines 1 and 2 of clause 4 (*c*).

He said :—

"Clause 4 (*c*) provides that of the 15 members who will constitute the Council, one member shall be elected from among the members of the Faculty of Medicine by the Senate of the Calcutta University. The proposed amendment is to make this clause run as follows—'that the members be elected from among the non-official members of the Faculty of Medicine by the Senate of the Calcutta University.' The question has been raised, especially in some observations which have fallen from the Hon'ble Mr. Stephenson, about the desirability or undesirability of classifying members of the Council in two classes, official and non-official, and in so far as such a provision tries to characterize any difference between members of the Council, whose duties are statutory and uniform, I certainly approve of the remarks made and the spirit in which they are made. But at the same time, remembering the discussion that has taken place all over the country in connection with the proposals of this Bill, remembering what we have heard

what the non-official medical practitioners of this country say about the scope and the objects of the Bill, and how their interests are likely to be affected, practical men cannot ignore the differences or the distinctions, however undesirable it may be to characterize them—between the interests of the non-official medical practitioners on the one hand, and the interests of the official medical practitioners on the other. however deplorable it might be to recognize such distinctions, it seems to me, I am bound to say, that with regard to the amendment which I venture to bring before the Council for consideration, there is one safeguard in the clause itself as proposed in the Bill which might make it unnecessary for me to press my motion, namely, that the election is to be made by the Senate of the Calcutta University. My hon'ble friend Babu Surendra Nath Ray has just reminded us, although his figures are slightly inaccurate, that of the 15 members now constituting the Faculty of Medicine of the Calcutta University, only three are non-officials. If the election had rested with the Faculty of Medicine, well, human nature being constituted as it is, one should have expected that the member to be elected by the Faculty of Medicine would be an official. Therefore there would virtually be one official added to the 8 who are likely to be appointed by the Government under clauses (*a*) and (*b*) of the Bill. It might be pointed out, however, to an objection like this that the election does not rest with the Faculty of Medicine, but with the Senate, we, however, remember that the Senate consists of nearly 100 members of whom 80 are nominated by Government. Therefore it seems to me that while you give a body, of which 80 per cent. consists of Government nominees, power to elect a member for the Council, it is desirable that a restriction like this should be imposed. If we compare the figures proposed by clause 4 of the Bill with the figures of the only Medical Council which are readily accessible to us, I mean the General Medical Council for the United Kingdom, what I find is this that of the 32 members who constitute that Council, 5 are nominated by the Government, 22 are nominated by the different corporate bodies, including the 13 elected by the different universities of the United Kingdom and 5 nominees elected by the registered medical practitioners. The largest element of course are the 22 elected by the different corporate bodies. Now it is a well-known fact that of the 13 who are elected by the different universities in the United Kingdom, the election rests with people, who are not—if I may be permitted to use an expression—under direct official domain. Of the 13 persons to be elected by the universities therefore, it will be follow that the large majority will be non-official medical practitioners. Instead of 13 members to be elected by the universities in the United Kingdom out of the 32 who constitute the General Medical Council, we have here one single member to be elected by the Calcutta University from the members of the Faculty of Medicine, the constitution of which, as I have just pointed out, is that of the 15 members who constitute the Faculty, only 3 are non-officials. Having regard to these facts, my Lord, it seems to me to be desirable that a condition like this should be imposed in order that the number of official members of the Council might not be too large. This is all that I have to say on this amendment."

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON :—

"I must in the first instance thank the Hon'ble Member for helping me to destroy his own amendment. I would point out that the comparison with the Medical Council in England is quite out of place here. The Medical Council proposed here in India is in a very different position. The English Council consists of 30 members. I think I am right in saying that."

The Hon'ble BABU MAHENDRA NATH RAY said :—

"I think it consists of 32 members."

The Hon'ble COLONEL HARRIS said :—

"I think the number is 38, and including the President it is 39."

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON, continuing :—

"I think that, out of that number, I am right in saying, there are 5 appointed by the Privy Council and the rest are elected, one each by those universities and bodies which have a right to give licenses to practise. The position here is absolutely different. The Select Committee gave the University of Calcutta a representation on the Council because it is the only body in Bengal that can give a license to practise. We asked the University themselves how it would be best to arrange for this representation on the Council, and we have provided that a member shall be elected from among the members of the Faculty of Medicine by the Senate of the Calcutta University. That is what the University themselves desire. The point of the amendment is simple: it is to narrow down the power of the University to elect a member. We have already been told that there are 15 members of the Faculty of Medicine, and instead of allowing the University to choose one out of that number, the new proposal is to tie down to one out of three non-official members. Surely that proposal carries its own condemnation. For the same reason as I have already objected to the Government power of nomination being restricted, I object to the Calcutta University's power being restricted. Therefore I oppose the amendment."

The Hon'ble DR. DEBA PRASAD SARBADHIKARI said :—

"My Lord, I have an amendment on the agenda paper in much the same terms. I take it that it will not be necessary for me to move it separately, but it would serve my purpose if I spoke to this motion. I desire to associate myself with all that has fallen from the Hon'ble Babu Mahendra Nath Ray in support of the amendment. I do not agree with the Hon'ble Mr. Stephenson that this would be really narrowing down the choice of the University. He will remember that whenever, in regard to outside representation, the University has been called upon to appoint a representative,—although there may not have been any written law on the subject—the unwritten law is to have a non-official if possible. My Lord, in spite of what the Hon'ble Mr. Stephenson may say with regard to the undesirability of the distinction between the official and non-official in the medical profession, there is, unfortunately, a marked cleavage, which has to be taken into account, and in order to get rid of the possibility of which the Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Ray has spoken, it is of great importance that non-official opinion should have a fair representation, and that can be secured only by circumscribing the choice in the manner proposed by the amendment, so that non-official representation may be as complete under the circumstances as possible. This is not a case of introducing a new principle in the election at all. The Council will remember that in regard to the election in the municipalities and District Boards and to this Council, a principle like that which is sought to be here imposed is not only allowed but insisted upon; and even when a Government pleader of a district offers himself as a candidate for election, though it is questionable whether he is a Government servant or not, the first ceremony that he has to go through is to resign his Government pleadership, so that he may be wholly exonerated from any colour that may be lent to his position as an official. Having regard to these considerations and a certainty of almost all non-official representation being dwindled, if restrictions like these be not provided, I think this amendment ought to be accepted by the Council."

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI said :—

"I wish to offer one or two remarks with reference to the observations which have fallen from my friends behind me and from those on my side. The whole question resolves itself into this: This Council is to consist of 15 members, of whom 8 are to be officials to be nominated by the Government. The issue is simply this: Do the Government want more than 8 officials on the Council? If the Government do not, I think it ought to accept the amendment. It is not a question of restricting the choice of election on the part of the Senate. The power of restriction is inforced

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as has been pointed out, in connection with the elections to this Council and if there are circumstances present in connection with this case which call for the restriction of the power, I don't see why the limitation should not be enforced. It seems to me therefore that this is eminently a reasonable amendment, and having regard to the fact that the Government do not want to have more Government officials, they ought to accept the amendment."

The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR said :—

"My Lord, I have a similar motion and I do not think it necessary to formally move my amendment. I shall associate myself with the observations that have fallen from the Hon'ble Dr. Sarbadhikari and the Hon'ble Babu Mahendra Nath Ray. My Lord, I want to make one observation with regard to the speech of the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill in reply to the amendment moved by the Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Ray, that the power of the Government to nominate should not be fettered in any way and that Government should be free to nominate 8 out of the 15 members constituting the Board. That principle having been accepted by the Council by the rejection of the amendment of my friend, the Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Ray, I submit that it naturally follows that the election of the other 7 non-official members should not be fettered in any way, so that a purely non-official body might be able to nominate purely non-official members to represent the medical profession on that body. We submit that the Act being in its infancy, its operation should be controlled by Government through the majority which they have in this Council. That majority will consist of the President and the seven members who will be nominated by the Government, and the other members who are to be non-officials, I submit, should be purely members elected by the bodies mentioned in the subsequent part of clause 4.

Then, my Lord, it has also been stated—I do not wish to take up the time of the Council, as it has been very well illustrated by my hon'ble friend Dr. Sarbadhikari—that in the representation of the municipality and District Boards on this Council the Government very generously and wisely laid down the rule that the officials should have nothing to do with the nomination or election of the non-official members of this Council. That principle has been followed for some years past, and it is rather late in the day to initiate a new principle. I submit that the motion which has been moved by my hon'ble friend may be accepted without any harm to the principle laid down by the Hon'ble Member in charge, as the Government will have a standing majority through the nominated official members, and I do not think that the object which the Government have in view will be in any way frustrated by giving the non-officials a free scope to nominate their own representatives on the Medical Council."

The Hon'ble BABU UPENDRA LAL RAY said :—

"My Lord, I beg to associate myself with the Hon'ble Members who have spoken on this clause. It is the most important of all the clauses in the Bill and requires careful consideration. I congratulate the members of the Select Committee on the wise step they have taken in increasing the number of members of the Council and in eliminating the provisoes relating to the appointment of the first Council. By doing this they have won the confidence and grateful thanks of the public, and specially of the members of the medical profession, inasmuch as the enlarged Council is likely to be representative of all classes and interests concerned. This is certainly the object of the Bill; but it has to be seen how far that object has been attained. The manner in which clause 4 has been recast by the members of the Select Committee by increasing the number of members of the Council to 15 instead of 9 clearly shews that the object is to have representation of all classes of medical practitioners. Of the 15 members 8 (including the President) are to be nominated by the Government. The rest will be elected as per sub-clauses (*c*), (*d*), (*e*) and (*f*). The public

feeling is that the 8 nominated members would most likely be officials. It is therefore fair that the 7 elected members should be sent in by the non-official medical practitioners who form an overwhelming majority in the Province. I beg therefore to suggest that proper care should be taken to ensure this, and this can only be done by altering the clause a little on the lines proposed. It is only fair that at such elections no Government official should be entitled either to stand as a candidate or to vote. The necessity for such provision is well known and this is not without precedent. The election of non-official additional members of Your Excellency's Council is held on such principles, the utility of which is beyond question. I anticipate that the reply of the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill is likely to be that the seven members to be nominated by the Local Government would not necessarily be officials in Government service. If this is so, the answer is that without the alteration of the clause in the manner suggested, some at least of the elected members also would be Government officials, as in the mufassal stations the Civil Surgeon and the Assistant Surgeon in charge of hospitals command great influence, and if they themselves stand as candidates or exert their influence in the elections, no outsider would have any chance of getting returned by the electorate. With these remarks I beg to commend this amendment to Your Excellency's acceptance."

The Hon'ble SIR WILLIAM DUKE said :—

"My Lord, I would wish that in a Bill like this, designed as it is to regulate matters connected with a learned profession, less importance were attached to official and non-official politics. It is not exactly a matter of politics ; it is mainly a question how the best could be done for the advancement of a learned profession, and the state of things would be happier if so much stress were not laid upon the official and the non-official point of view. I may observe that professional attainments have nothing to do with official relations with the Government. If members desire to make it a question of politics it cannot be helped, and I presume that many points can be worked up on political lines, at any rate as regards the University. I must again, however, draw attention to what the Hon'ble Member in charge has already pointed out, and that is that in the case of the University at any rate, the choice should not be limited in any way and the member whom the University will send to the Council ought to be the best man it has in the profession, a man with the highest professional character and greatest weight. He may or may not be an official, and there can, I think, be no question that, in principle, the Faculty ought not to be restricted as to the member whom it may send by any other condition than that he should be one of the Faculty."

The motion was then put and lost.

The following motions were then, by leave of the President, withdrawn :—

List of Amendments—Motion No. 4.—The Hon'ble Dr. Deba Prasad Sarbadhikari to move that the word "non-official" be inserted between the word "the" and the word "members" in lines 1 and 2 of clause 4 (*c*).

List of Amendments—Motion No. 5.—The Hon'ble Mr. Chakravarti to move that the word "non-official" be inserted between the word "the" and the word "members" in lines 1 and 2 of clause 4 (*c*).

List of Amendments—Motion No. 6.—The Hon'ble Babu Upendra Lal Ray to move that the word "non-official" be inserted between the word "the" and the word "members" in lines 1 and 2 of clause 4 (*c*).

List of Amendments—Motion No. 7.—The Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur to move that the word "non-official" be inserted between the word "the" and the word "members" in lines 1 and 2 of clause 4 (*c*).

Rai Nalinaksha Basu Bahadur ; Maulvi A. K. Faz-ul-Haq.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 8.—The Hon'ble Rai Nalinaksha Basu Bahadur moved that the words "not being Government servants" be added after the word "practitioners" in line 2 of clause 4 (*d*).

He said :—

"My Lord, after reading the objects and reasons of the Bill and after going through its provisions I am convinced that the Government are desirous of taking the public into their confidence in constituting the Council mentioned in the Bill and to make it a representative one as far as can be under the present circumstances of the country. The measures which are being sought to be introduced are quite new to this country, and I can confidently state that neither during the Hindu nor during the Muhammadan periods any attempt was made to discriminate publicly between a duly qualified and an irregularly brought up medical practitioner ; and as far as I am aware, that only in the year 1858 a measure like the present one was introduced into so far advanced a country as the kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland. In my humble opinion India is not yet prepared to have a Council like the one mentioned in the Bill ; but as it is the wish of the Government that such a Council should be established it is our duty to see that it does the work allotted to it satisfactorily. By clause 4 (*a*) and (*b*) power has been reserved by Government to nominate 8 members of the Council and therefore in my humble opinion they will be easily able to command a majority at any time, and if in addition to these 8 members other Government servants are allowed to have seats in it the result will be that the Council will not be looked upon as a representative body but as a new department of the Government. For the above reasons I beg to propose that, under clause (*d*), Government servants, who are qualified to be registered under the Medical Acts, should be excluded from voting. My amendment runs as follows : 'That one member to be elected by registered practitioners not being Government servants who are qualified to be registered under the Medical Acts.' Strictly speaking, Government servants are not practitioners as they do not live by practice ; they are in the service of the Government and their time is at the disposal of Government, who have, however, as a matter of favour, granted them permission to practise. As far as I have been able to ascertain, Government servants form the majority of the gentlemen who have British qualifications in this Province and if they are allowed to elect a member it is almost certain that another Government servant will become a member. All the District Civil Surgeons and Presidency Surgeons, as well as Professors of Government Medical Colleges and Schools, possess British qualifications for being registered and unless they are excluded from the category of voters the result will be what I have already stated. For the above reasons I hope that the amendment will be accepted."

The Hon'ble MAULVI A. K. FAZ-UL-HAQ said :—

"My Lord, I have got an amendment which practically includes amendments 3 to 15, and I find that after the discussion of amendments 3 to 7, one portion of the amendment which I intended to propose is gone. I do not know at that rate what will be the fate of the other amendments, and I doubt very much whether there will be anything left for me to urge. It is for these reasons that I crave Your Excellency's permission to say a few words as regards the discussion which, I see, has been raised between official and non-official members so far as their utility on this Council is concerned. I forget, my Lord, who it was who said that all laws are made for the sake of man and not man for the sake of law. I believe, my Lord, that one object of this legislation is to afford relief to the people, and it is in consonance with the wishes of the people that all legislative Acts should be undertaken. It is through non-official element that the wishes of the people are best ascertained. I can well appreciate the importance of the remarks made by the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill deprecating any unnecessary distinction between official and non-official element ; but so far as their respective duties are concerned, I certainly believe that officials and non-officials, when thrown together in the

performance of a public duty, can act with perfect fellow-feeling in the spirit of comradeship. But it is best that we should remember that the distinction exists, and does exist for the best of reasons. Some of the Hon'ble Members have already spoken on this subject: but I think a little frank confession has to be made. It is this, that we non-officials feel somewhat afraid of an official majority It seems to me that, when somehow or other officials predominate in a representative body, the acts of that body are likely to be construed by the general public as having been dictated by the Government authorities. They may be right or they may be wrong in their views, but such a feeling does exist, and if that feeling exists I do not see why Government should be so particularly anxious to have an official majority on the Council. I, therefore, do not see any real point in the opposition which is being offered to the amendment by which we all recommend that there should be a majority of non-official members. For these reasons I wish to accord my support to the amendment."

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON said :—

"My Lord, the effect of these amendments will be to disqualify completely every Government servant as a medical man, not only the members of the Indian Medical Service, but every Government Assistant Surgeon, all Government Sub-Assistant Surgeons, are to be deprived of any voice whatever in their own Government. Is this what the Hon'ble Members consider is in accordance with the spirit of liberty and democracy?

What is the justification for this wholesale disfranchisement? The Select Committee took away the original clause 4, which set up a Council of 4 *ex-officio* members out of 9. We deliberately did away with that composition because we felt that, in the case of the medical profession, when you were setting up a Council to govern that medical profession, there was no question whatever of official or non-official. We therefore deliberately swept away all *ex-officio* representation. Hon'ble Members now come in and ask us to go further and to set up deliberately a non-official Council. What is this distinction between officials and non-officials? One Hon'ble Member has stated that the object of having non-officials on this Council is that it is only through non-officials that the public voice will be represented. We do not want the public voice to be represented on this Council. We want the voice of the profession represented. What difference is there between an L.M.S. man who has taken Government service, who has passed his life in the mufassal, and an L.M.S. man who has not taken Government service, but who has set up practice in the mufassal? What is the reason why they should regard medical matters from a different point of view? The Hon'ble Member who spoke last was afraid that there would be at all events a fear that the public would consider that Government were influencing every action of this Council. What is the work of this Council? This Council has to set up a register. It has to register certain people with certain qualifications. There is no question of policy in it. If they have the qualifications, they go on the register. It has also some very small disciplinary powers. It is entrusted with the power of refusing to register, or turning off the register, a man whom they considered guilty of infamous conduct Where do Government come in there? It is the trial of a man by his own peers. What interest have Government in hounding a particular member of the profession? Do I understand that the Hon'ble Member considers that every time a man is turned off the register, even if the case is clearly proved, the public generally would consider that Government have turned him off, that Government have issued an order to the official majority of the Council to turn him off the register, to find him guilty of professional misconduct? What is the objection to have Government servants on the Council? It must be either that they have too high an ideal for the rest of the profession to live up to, or that they have so low an ideal that they would bring the rest of the profession down. I do not think Hon'ble Members would accept either of those alternatives. What is the disqualification of a man who is an eminent physician or surgeon, but is also

an official for serving on the Council? What is this crime of being a servant of Government? It seems to me that these amendments strike at the whole underlying principle of the Bill. What we hope to effect by this Bill is to weld the whole medical profession into one, with a single aim for its own higher advancement. As long as we perpetuate any distinction between officials and non-officials, we are bound to have two camps in the Council, two camps in the profession, and we shall never have a whole unified profession, raising the ideals of the medical profession to the heights which they have reached in other countries, and for that reason I protest most strongly against any idea of importing a distinction between officials and non-officials into an institution which deals solely and entirely with the organization of an efficient medical profession which knows neither country nor colour nor creed.

I feel very strongly that any attempt to set up two opposite parties, looking at each other with jealous eyes, will harm the whole faculty, and for that reason I oppose this amendment."

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI said :—

"My Lord, the Hon'ble Member who has just spoken labours under the idea that there is no real divergence of interest between official and non-official medical men, and that the effect of these amendments would be to set up two opposite camps in this Council, one camp consisting of the official members and another of non-official members. He says that this Council, which is to represent the medical profession as a whole, has no reference whatever to official and non-official interests. Now, is that so? Is it the case that there is no divergence of interests between officials and non-officials, even so far as the medical profession is concerned?—"

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON said :—

"I did not say there was divergence of interest between medical men. I said that, so far as this Bill is concerned, the interests of the profession are the same. No doubt there is a difference of opinion and interests in professional matters, but so far as this Bill is concerned, there is no divergence."

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI said :—

"At least we have one qualification that, so far as this Bill is concerned, there is no divergence of interest. Therefore it is admitted that there is divergence of interest between officials and non-officials in the medical profession so far as other matters beyond the Bill are concerned. That is a concession which I am glad to be able to extort from my hon'ble friend. But, Sir, this Bill covers a very wide ground connected with the medical profession, and in that wide ground there are interests that are divergent and conflicting—interests which might be said to be of a particular character looked at from an official point of view, but of a wholly different character looked at from a non-official point of view. My hon'ble friend must have noticed that a series of amendments have been started from this side of the House with reference to confining the official element to within certain limits. Why should we feel so strongly about this matter? Why should we feel that it is necessary that we should have a certain non-official representation on this Council? Because we believe that, if the official majority was predominant, if the voice of that majority was not to be restricted by a non-official minority, the interests of the profession and of the country would suffer. We are not acting under any feeling of perverseness. We think this is a matter in which the Government should admit that we should have a voice. It is a new experiment, and, being a new experiment, the initiation of it, the guidance of it, must in the first place be left to the Government. That is the view on this side of the House, and we do not dispute it. But, my Lord, at the same time we are of deliberate opinion that in the constitution of this body there should be a substantial leaven of the non-official medical profession, and all these amendments are directed towards this object in

view ; and it is somewhat surprising that my hon'ble friend should not know the attitude of this side of the House, and should not be in sympathy with it. We are anxious to make this Bill a success. We are anxious to leave the guidance in the hands of the Government, but we also feel that if this Bill is to be a success, it can only be so by an adequate representation of the non-official element on this Council—that the officials must be permitted to have a predominant voice, but that that voice must be tempered by such considerations as the non-official minority may find it necessary to advance. That is our attitude, and all this talk about officials and non-officials having no divergence of views is irrelevant. If there is no divergence of views, why don't you accept all these amendments, and let us have all the non-officials there? I challenge my hon'ble friend to meet me on that ground. If there is no divergence of opinion, if the interests are completely identical, I do not think he ought to object to these amendments. Is my friend prepared to take that challenge? I hope and trust he will."

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON said :—

"May I point out that we do not mention a single official in clause 4 ?"

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI continuing said :—

"The word is not mentioned, but I think past experience is our guide in these matters. We know that when Government have the right of appointing representatives, they will, in many cases, appoint officials, a large majority of them, and if they will not appoint a large majority of officials, they will appoint persons whom we call quasi-officials, who are worse than the officials. The latter will be under no obligation to Government, not even under the obligation of drawing their pay from Government. They will be only under the obligation of having been appointed to these offices by the Government, and therefore they feel it their duty to vote for the Government in season and out of season. We do not object to officials, but quasi-officials we hate, abominate, and are afraid of, and therefore we would much rather have officials than quasi-officials. I do hope that my friend will not object to the amendments, because we are anxious to help Government. Our attitude is that Government should have a preponderating influence, but that we should also have as a minority a substantial voice in the deliberations of this Council."

The Hon'ble BABU MAHENDRA NATH RAY said :—

"My Lord, having already spoken on my motion, I had no desire to say more on a somewhat similar subject, but this elaborate attempt on the Hon'ble Mr. Stephenson's part to raise a question of morals, so to say, has compelled me to submit a few additional remarks on this subject. The Hon'ble M . Stephenson has told us that all that we require is the voice of the medical profession, and he has also put the very pertinent question, why should Government servants be disqualified? Both these propositions—one a direct proposition and the other in the form of a question—are excellent in principle, but the point is this :—Has the medical profession as a whole no divergence of interest? The Hon'ble Member in charge told us that, so far as this Bill is concerned, there is not recognized and need not be recognized any diversities of interest. The Hon'ble Member will pardon me if I say that I am afraid this statement is based on a fallacy. Let us look at the clause which we are now discussing—clause 4 itself. Clause 4 does recognize divergence of interests in the medical profession, or else why should separate provision be made in clauses (*d*), (*e*) and (*f*), respectively, for election of members to the Council by different branches of that profession? Why don't you say, let six members be elected by all registered practitioners, whether qualified under the Medical Acts or under the Bill introduced now? Why not leave out all that distinction about one member being elected by those who are registered under the Medical Acts, and three by those who are graduates or licentiates of the University of Calcutta, and two by all the other registered practitioners? I am afraid, therefore, the Hon'ble Member in

Sir William Duke.

charge of the Bill evidently overlooked that cardinal principle of his own Bill when he said that, so far as this Bill is concerned, no diversity of interests in the medical profession ought to be recognized. Now the Bill itself does recognize one kind of diversity of interest. This amendment proposes recognition of another kind of diversity of interest. The Bill recognizes diversity of interest so far as it affects those who are registered under the Medical Act, as distinguished from those who are graduates of the Calcutta University, as distinguished from those, the others, the residue of the medical practitioners registered under the Act. This is a distinction as to diversity of interests which we believe to be quite sound. What is proposed is to introduce another element in respect of this diversity of interests, and that is this: we believe, that, for reasons which lie on the surface, the interests of the non-official members of the profession are not in all respects identical with the interests of the official members of the profession. If this hypothesis is wrong, all these amendments are based upon wrong principles. But if this hypothesis is sound, these amendments are all based upon sound principles and the object of these amendments is to safeguard against the constitution of the proposed Council being in an overwhelming official majority. It is no use, my Lord, under the semblance of plausible arguments, to overlook this menace, and to say that the interests of science do not recognize the distinction between officials and non-officials. It will be fallacy if you overlook that. As a matter of fact, having regard to various circumstances which you need not stop to consider, it is a fact that in certain essential respects the interests of that large body of medical practitioners in this country who are non-officials are not exactly identical with the interests of the official nominees. If there is a diversity, it cannot be removed or swept away by appeal to the sacred cause of science or to the cosmopolitan character of the profession. All that is very good to hear, all that is very good to argue, but if such diversity of interests exists, recognize it and try to give effect to it. If such diversity of interests does not exist, you have every right to say that these amendments are based on unsound principles, but no reference to the sacred cause of medical science can remove diversity of interest, which does, as we honestly believe, affect the situation."

The Hon'ble SIR WILLIAM DUKE said:—

"I would just like to say a word or two in respect of what has been urged in favour of putting men in the service of Government on a different footing to others; I must say that I remain unconvinced, because I think we ought to recognize facts. However much we may hope for and believe in the future of the medical profession of Bengal, the fact cannot be got over that the Government service will probably, for many years to come, form the largest (certainly the most important) part of it, and Government are not prepared to permit the disfranchisement of a very considerable portion of the profession, including some of the most eminent practitioners in the Province, merely for the sake of what I may call an academic idea that Government servants as such should stand aside from the self-administration of the profession. Now, as to the stated facts, we are at present dealing with an amendment to clause (*d*) which concerns only those who have European qualifications. The state of the case is that in all, in Bengal, Calcutta, and the mufassal, there are 120 men with such qualifications, and almost exactly half of these men are Government servants. I do not pretend to say for a moment whether the Government servants are the more eminent class or not; at any rate, they are numerically as important as the others. It seems to me that no ground of principle whatever has been brought forward, as to why 60 out of 120 of these men having European qualifications in Bengal, should be disqualified from ever voting for or being members of the Council. I think my hon'ble friend Babu Surendra Nath Banerji sometimes possibly says more than he means. I did not really know that he regarded non-officials nominated by Government with such extreme hatred and loathing. I do not believe that he abominates the Hon'ble Dr. Nilratan Sarkar."

Babu S. N. Banerji; Sir William Duke; Rai Nalinaksha Basu Bahadur; Mr. Stephenson.

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI said :—

"I rise to a point of order. I think the remark is objectionable, that I do not mean what I say."

The Hon'ble SIR WILLIAM DUKE, continuing, said :—

"I take it, then, that the Hon'ble Member does abominate the Hon'ble Dr. Nilratan Sarkar, and regards him with loathing. I presume he also abominates the Hon'ble Mr. S. P. Sinha. It is very hard on both these gentlemen, who have my sincere sympathy. The Hon'ble Member says they have no responsibility; they are not responsible to Government, and yet they always vote with Government when required. I think, before making a remark of that kind, he should read the published Proceedings of the Council and see how often these abominable nominees of Government have voted with them!"

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI said :—

"I did not refer to all, Sir."

The Hon'ble SIR WILLIAM DUKE, continuing, said :—

"Well, there are some of these gentlemen at any rate to whom the Hon'ble Member admittedly referred (though at the time he seemed to embrace all Government nominees in his remarks), and I think it is very unfair of him to have done so; and as they are not here to defend themselves, I think it my duty to do so for them."

The motion was then put and lost.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 9.—The Hon'ble Rai Nalinaksha Basu Bahadur moved that the words "not being Government servants" be added after the word "practitioners" in line 2 of clause 4 (*e*).

He said :—

"Some of the grounds mentioned by me in connection with my amendment of clause 4 (*d*) apply to the present amendment also. A very large number of graduates and licentiates in medicine or surgery of the University of Calcutta are in the service of Government, and for the reasons already stated, their names should not appear in the list of voters. In the election of the members of the Legislative Council, Government servants have been rigidly excluded from voting. It may be mentioned also that, under the provisions of the Bengal Municipal Act, two-thirds of the total number of Commissioners of each municipality are elected, and although the Government have been empowered to appoint the remaining one-third of the Commissioners, the Act has taken care to mention, as a proviso, that the number of persons holding salaried offices under the Government and appointed as municipal Commissioners shall not bear a larger proportion than one-fourth to the total number of Commissioners elected and appointed. A similar provision has been made in the Local Self-Government Act also. For the above reasons I hope this amendment will be accepted."

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON said :—

"Your Excellency, I am afraid I must oppose this amendment on the same ground as the last. I do not wish to weary the Council by going over the same ground, as regards officials and non-officials. I would only like to drive home, perhaps even more strongly, the point that, under this Bill, there are only two things the Council can do,—one is to put a man on the register, and the other is to take his name off. As regards those two things, I cannot see that there are any divergent interests between any members of the medical profession. This particular amendment proposes to exclude officials from those members who are elected by registered practitioners who are degree-holders or licentiates of the University of Calcutta. There are

Dr. D. P. Sarbadhikari; Mr. Stephenson; The President; Babu Mahendra Nath Ray.

in the list published by the Inspector-General of Hospitals 804 such men in Bengal, of whom 374 are in Calcutta. There are well over 300 Assistant Surgeons, I think, in Bengal, all Government servants. Why is this huge proportion of the whole to be left out on the single argument that Government have 8 members in the Council, and therefore it is not necessary that there should be any more public servants on the Council. I take it that this is the only reason for the amendment."

The motion was then put and lost.

The following motion was, by leave of the President, withdrawn :—

List of Amendments—Motion No. 10.—The Hon'ble Rai Nalinaksha Basu Bahadur to move that the words "not being Government servants" be added after the word "practitioners" in line 2 of clause 4 (*f*).

List of Amendments—Motions Nos. 11-15.

The Hon'ble Dr. DEBA PRASAD SARBADHIKARI said :—

"I beg Your Excellency's ruling as to whether the other amendments having been lost, the moving of Amendments Nos. 11-15 would be in order, because practically they cover the same ground.

The Hon'ble Mr. STEPHENSON said :—

"The only question that has not already been dealt with is about candidates for election."

The Hon'ble Dr. DEBA PRASAD SARBADHIKARI said :—

"Then the amendments may be put with the omission of the words either a voter or."

The PRESIDENT said :—

"That is so; with my permission, the words 'either a voter or' occurring in amendments Nos. 11-15 must go out, and these amendments may now be moved with those words deleted.

"The Hon'ble Mr. Chakravarti is not here, so the amendment standing in his name (No. 11), which is identical with the other amendments, drops. I call upon the Hon'ble Dr. Sarbadhikari to move amendment No. 12, which stands in his name."

The Hon'ble Dr. DEBA PRASAD SARBADHIKARI then moved that the following proviso be added at the end of clause 4, namely :—

"Provided also that no Government official shall be entitled to be a candidate in respect of any election under clause (*d*), clause (*e*) or clause (*f*)."

He said :—

"Your Excellency, with that verbal alteration, I beg to move the amendment standing in my name. There seems to be a certain amount of delusion that we are indulging in on both sides of the House. Some are under the impression that there is nothing in this Bill that need alarm the profession or the public, and therefore there need be no particular anxiety in regard to this matter. Some are under the impression that there is a great deal in the Bill, and therefore it is to be desired that the Council should be as representative as possible of all interests."

The Hon'ble BABU MAHENDRA NATH RAY said :—

"My Lord, I beg simply to support this amendment as another amendment similarly worded stands in my name, namely, amendment No. 13."

Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur; Maulvi A. K. Faz-ul-Haq; Mr. Stephenson.

The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR said :—

"My Lord, I beg to support the amendment which has been moved by my friend the Hon'ble Dr. Sarbadhikari, as an amendment exactly similar in terms stands in my name. I would say a very few words, as I have nothing particular to say on the great principle that has been discussed, that there is no distinction between official and non-official interests so far as this Bill is concerned. My Lord, in this matter it has been said, and I believe it is also recognized by the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill, that it is a great privilege for a person to be tried by his own peers; but, my Lord, even in a jury trial both the prosecution and the defence have a right to challenge the jury, and here in this case there would be a trial of a medical man by his peers, and so far as official element is concerned, it will be in a standing majority, and if the non-official element is to be restricted, I am afraid this privilege of being tried by his own peers will be to a large extent frustrated. There is thus this great apprehension, as Your Excellency might have gathered from the Press and from the utterances in this Council.

My Lord, in view of the assurance that has been given by the Hon'ble Member in charge, that there is no intention of making any distinction between officials and non-officials so far as this Bill is concerned, it strikes me whether it would not be better, although there is no motion to that effect, to leave the constitution of the Council entirely in the hands of the medical profession. Let the register of all medical practitioners and degree-holders, official and non-official medical men, be prepared and let them elect the members of the Council, so that there will be no distinction between officials and non-officials in the election of members to this Council.

It has been said that the Government should have—and we all admit it—a hand in the controlling of the operations of the Act, when the Act is in its infancy, and we admit that it is not proper to press for election of the members of the Council by the medical profession as a whole, but we submit, my Lord, that the privilege of nominating a candidate as far as candidates from the electorates under clauses (*b*), (*e*) and (*f*) of clause 4 are concerned, should be at least with the non-officials, and having regard to the amended form in which this amendment has been moved, the officials and non-officials of the profession will have the privilege of nominating a candidate, who must be a non-official, and the officials and non-officials shall have an equal voice in his election. Now that the amendment has been reduced to such a harmless proposition, I think it will be acceptable to the Hon'ble Member in charge."

The Hon'ble MAULVI A. K. FAZ-UL-HAQ said :—

"My Lord, as I have a motion exactly similar in terms, I wish to say a few words in support of this amendment. My Lord, the matter has been thoroughly discussed, and I wish only to say this that in this Council, we, the non-officials, are supposed to be in a majority, and it is very easy to see from the number of amendments that have been proposed, that the trend of non-official opinion is most overwhelming, of having a non-official majority on this Medical Council. I think that if non-official opinion has any value, the officials ought to take it that it is the wish of the non-officials that there should also be a non-official majority in the Medical Council."

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON said :—

"Is the Hon'ble Member in order in referring to the non-official majority in this Council?"

The Hon'ble MAULVI A. K. FAZ-UL-HAQ, continuing, said :—

"I wish to put before the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill that the mere fact of so many members having sent in amendments similar in character, recommending a non-official majority in the Medical Council, shows that our apprehensions are that the constitution of the Medical Council will practically be as at present, namely, that the official element shall predominate. I do not wish, however, to take up the time of the Council."

Mr. Stephenson; Rai Nalinaksha Basu Bahadur.

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON said :—

"My Lord, I was myself struck with the number of identical amendments which have been sent on this Bill, but the inference which I drew from this was that the Hon'ble Members had consulted together and had drawn up amendments in identical terms. I will not, however, weary the Council by any further discussion on the question of the official and the non-official element. This amendment is confined to one point, and that is whether a Government official may be a candidate or not. The Council has already declined to disfranchise a Government official. Government officials are in a minority, and I think that the Council will agree that there is no reason why the member whom the registered practitioners may wish to elect should not be a Government official."

The motion was then put and lost.

The following motions were then, by leave of the President, withdrawn :—

List of Amendments—Motion No. 13.—The Hon'ble Babu Mahendra Nath Ray to move that the following proviso be added at the end of clause 4, namely :—

"Provided also that no Government official shall be entitled to be either a voter or a candidate in respect of any election under clause (*d*), clause (*e*) or clause (*f*)."

List of Amendments—Motion No. 14.—The Hon'ble Babu Upendra Lal Ray to move that the following proviso be added at the end of clause 4, namely :—

"Provided also that no Government official shall be entitled to be either a voter or a candidate in respect of any election under clause (*d*), clause (*e*) or clause (*f*)."

List of Amendments—Motion No. 15.—The Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur to move that the following proviso be added at the end of clause 4, namely :—

"Provided also that no Government official shall be entitled to be either a voter or a candidate in respect of any election under clause (*d*), clause (*e*) or clause (*f*)."

List of Amendments—Motion No. 16.—The Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Faz-ul-Haq to move that the following proviso be added at the end of clause 4, namely :—

"Provided also that no Government official shall be entitled to take part either as a candidate or as a voter in any election under clause (*c*), clause (*d*), clause (*e*) or clause (*f*)."

List of Amendments—Motion No. 17.—The Hon'ble Rai Nalinaksha Basu Bahadur moved that the following two provisos be added at the end of clause 4, namely :—

"Provided also that if, after the expiration of three years from the commencement of this Act, or at any subsequent time, the Local Government are of opinion that the Council should be granted the privilege of electing one of their own members as President, it shall be lawful for the Local Government to direct accordingly, by notification published in the *Calcutta Gazette*:

"Provided further that, of the seven members to be nominated by the Local Government under clause (*b*), two at least shall be non-officials."

He said :—

"Under the English Medical Act of 1858 power was given to the Council, constituted under its provisions, to elect its President. It may be said very reasonably that what is good for England is not necessarily good for India inasmuch as India is far behind England: there can be no doubt on the point, and I do not propose that just at the commencement of the operation of the present Act such power should be given to the Council. We hope, however, that in course of three years the Council will be able to discharge its duties satisfactorily without any reasonable complaints from any one. If our expectations are fulfilled, the Government will then be in a position to judge whether the privilege should be granted, and if in their opinion the Council will be deserving of the privilege they may be disposed to grant it. My proposition is that power should be reserved to do so. If my proposed proviso be not enacted into law, the Government will not be competent to grant the privilege even if it be disposed to do so without amending the present Act. I beg to submit that my proposal is very moderate, and in my humble opinion, is a very reasonable one, and I hope the member in charge of the Bill will kindly accept it."

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON said :—

"My Lord, I think the Hon'ble Member's proposal must be based on the Home Rule proposals for Ulster. I do not think that it is a businesslike way of dealing with the question. If we are satisfied that for at least three years a particular form of constitution is required, I think we would leave it to the future to alter that form when it was no longer required. The Hon'ble Member need be under no apprehension that there would be any difficulty. In Bombay, I believe, within a very few months of the passing of the Medical Bill the Bombay Council passed an amendment to it and I am perfectly certain that we shall be willing to do so here when the time comes."

The motion was then, by leave of the President, withdrawn.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 18.—The Hon'ble Rai Nalinaksha Basu Bahadur moved that the words "and unless it finds a place in the agenda paper" be inserted after the word "present" in line 3 of proviso (*i*) to clause 12 (*1*).

He said :—

"My Lord, the reason for moving this amendment is obvious. Only to guard against a decision being suddenly arrived at without giving any previous notice, I may say it is a universal rule for transaction of business by any corporate body or council that only those matters are decided at a meeting which are mentioned in the list of business. I therefore hope that the Member in charge of the Bill will kindly accept my amendment which does not clash with any of the main provisions of this Bill."

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON said :—

"My Lord, the amendment which the Hon'ble Member wishes to move really comes, I think, under the head of the Rules of Business. Under clause 12(*c*), we give the power to the Council to make regulations to regulate the conduct of business, and this amendment is really covered by that. I think the Hon'ble Member will withdraw his amendment."

The Hon'ble RAI NALINAKSHA BASU BAHADUR said :—

"My Lord, after the assurance given by the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill, I beg to withdraw the amendment."

The amendment was then, by leave of the President, withdrawn.

Rai Nalinaksha Basu Bahadur; Mr. Stephenson; The President; Babu S. N. Ray; Colonel Harris.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 19.—The Hon'ble Rai Nalinaksha Basu Bahadur moved that the words "except as otherwise expressly provided in this Act" be inserted before the word "all" in line 1 of proviso (*ii*) to clause 12(1).

He said :—

"My Lord, I have proposed the amendment in view of the alteration I intend to move in respect to the provisions of clauses 17 and 24. I have to move later on that the decision of the Council finding a practitioner guilty of infamous conduct must be by a majority of at least two-thirds of the total number of members of the Council. If that amendment of mine is carried, the provisions of clauses 17 and 24 will clash with the provisions of this clause. I hope my amendment will be accepted on the above grounds."

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON said :—

"My Lord, I may submit that this is, more or less, a consequential amendment, and it would be more convenient to take it after the main amendment.

The PRESIDENT said :—

"It is pointed out that this is a dependant amendment. It will be taken up later, if necessary."

The discussion of the amendment was thereupon postponed.

Clause 13.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 20.—The Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Ray moved that the words "such fees for attendance at meetings of the Council, and," in lines 2 and 3 of clause 13 be omitted.

He said :—

"Clause 13 of the Bill provides :—

> There shall be paid to the members of the Council such fees for attendance at meetings of the Council, and such reasonable travelling expenses, as may from time to time be allowed by the Council and approved by the Local Government.

My reason for moving for the omission of the words is this : that the object for introducing the Bill is to raise the tone of the medical profession. Membership to this Council should not be considered in the light of a directorship of a company. The question of pounds, shillings and pence should find no place in this Bill. We know very well that members of the Syndicate of the Calcutta University such as my friend the Hon'ble Babu Mahendra Nath Ray and the Hon'ble Dr. Sarbadhikari, who is now the Vice-Chancellor, spend about four to six hours every week ungrudgingly for the University. Some members of our Council come from distant places such as Chittagong, Jalpaiguri and Darjeeling, and they never think of ever charging any fee for the services which they render to this Council. I cannot really understand why a member of this Medical Council should think of getting any fee. It is enough that we are going to have this Council ; and, of course, speaking for myself, I see the utter inutility of this Council. It is also a matter for surprise that the services of such a distinguished medical officer as the Inspector-General of Civil Hospitals have been requisitioned. For what purpose? To be applied as a blister, I suppose. I do not think that any fee should be paid to members for attendance at the meetings of the Medical Council."

The Hon'ble COLONEL HARRIS said :—

"My Lord, although I am regarded as a blister, I may perhaps be permitted to make one or two remarks on the amendment which the Hon'ble Member behind me has just moved. I have to thank him for his remarks about myself. But I feel constrained to oppose his motion that the members of the Council of Registration should not be paid reasonable fees for their attendance. Clause 13 of the Bill is based on section 12 of the English

Medical Act of 1858, which provides that there shall be paid to the members such reasonable travelling expenses as shall, from time to time, be allowed by the General Council and approved by the Commissioner of His Majesty's Treasury. There is also a similar provision in the Bombay Act. Under the rules of that Act the members get a fee of Rs. 50 a day for attendance on the meetings of Council. The meetings of the Medical Council will be very few indeed—not more than one or two in a year; so this will not amount to a large sum. The fact that members of this Legislative Council attend meetings without any fees does not seem to have anything to do with the point at issue, and I do not propose to make any remarks on the subject. I do not understand why the members of the proposed Bengal Medical Council of Registration should serve gratis if they could be remunerated for their labours from the income of the Council. It may be hard for the members if they are required to attend without any reasonable fee, as otherwise why should they leave their place of practice without any compensation? There can be no analogy between the directors of a company and the members of the Council. I think that, besides these fees, they should be paid reasonable travelling expenses. For these reasons, I oppose this amendment."

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH RAY said:—

"My Lord, I simply object to the payment of fees and not to any reasonable travelling expenses, such as travelling expenses, which are paid to members of this Council."

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI said:—

"My Lord, I desire to make one observation, if I am in order, and it is this that fees are paid to members of the General Committee of the Corporation, and I think that if fees have to be paid to members of this Medical Council, this provision should be incorporated in the Act as in the Calcutta Municipal Act and not left to be determined by the rules to be framed hereafter. I think that this is also included in the Bombay and Madras Acts."

The motion was then put and lost.

Clause 14.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 21.—The Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Ray moved that after the word "Registrar", at the end of clause 14 (*1*) (*a*), the following be added, namely:—

"who shall be either—

(*i*) a Doctor or Bachelor of Medicine of the University of Calcutta of not less than 5 years' standing, or

(*ii*) a member of the Indian Medical Service who has served in civil employ in Bengal for at least 3 years, or

(*iii*) a Doctor of Medicine of the University of London, or a Licentiate in Medicine or Surgery of the Universities of Edinburgh or Glasgow, with not less than three years' experience in Bengal."

He said:—

"What I want, my Lord, is that the Registrar should not be a mere lay man, but he should have some experience of the practice of medicine, because he is not only Registrar, but under clause 19 of the Bill, he is also to act as Secretary to the Council. So we must not have a mere ministerial officer as Registrar but a man with some medical qualifications, *i.e.*, a man who is competent to act as executive officer of the Council.

Under clause 19 of the Bill, every person applying for registration of his name must satisfy the Registrar that he is possessed of some title or qualification referred to in the schedule. The Registrar must therefore be fully acquainted with the different qualifications which candidates may possess, and unless he be a medical man himself, he will not be able to fully understand what qualifications are necessary to entitle a person to be registered.

Mr. Stephenson; Colonel Harris.

Then, under clause 22, if any person is dissatisfied with any decision of the Registrar refusing to enter the name or any title or qualification of such person in the register of registered practitioners, he may, at any time within three months from the date of such decision, appeal to the Council, whose decision shall be final. So that we see that he is not only to be a mere ministerial officer but a go-between between the Council and the public. He will have to exercise some executive power, and against his decision there is an appeal to the Council. What I want is that he should be a qualified medical man, and the qualifications which I want him to possess I have specified in my amendment. As the Secretary will have important duties to perform in the Council, I think that he should be a properly qualified man. It is for this reason that I have proposed the amendment. I hope it will be accepted."

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON said :—

"My Lord, I must oppose this amendment. I may observe that sub-clause (*iii*) is another injustice done to Ireland, as all Irish degrees are excluded. But apart from that, I think that this amendment ties the Council down far too much. The Registrar will be a very important person as he will have the driving power, but it does not seem necessary that he should be a doctor. The Council will not be a rich body, and I do not see why men of the Assistant Surgeon class should not be sufficient if it is necessary to have a doctor. The Council will not be a rich body ; we have to pay travelling allowances, and I am told that the travelling allowances of this Council amount to Rs. 18,000 a year. So that travelling allowances may very possibly be quite a reasonable amount of money. The Council will very likely not have enough money to appoint a whole-time M.B. The work of the Registrar is secretarial work, and it will not be very much in the first year or two. I understand that in Bombay the Council only met twice in the year. During the time that the Council is not meeting it will be purely secretarial work, corresponding with the people on the register and so forth. His other duties are to be satisfied as regards the qualifications of candidates for the register. He has to exercise a certain amount of intelligence, but the question before him will be—Has the candidate got the qualifications he claims he has? That is a question of fact, looking up the registers, corresponding with the Registrars of the University, and so forth. No actual technical medical question will come before the Registrar at all. It is not really necessary to have a highly-trained medical man. It is quite possible that it will pay the Council best to employ a half-time officer, something on the lines of the Secretary to the Examination Board He need not devote the whole of his time to the work, and it might pay the Council not to have a medical officer at all. I do not think therefore that it is really necessary to tie down the Council to any technical qualifications. The Registrar can only be appointed subject to the orders of the Local Government. I think that will be sufficient. I quite agree with the Hon'ble Member that the Registrar should be a good man, and the Act cannot work unless the Registrar is a good man ; but I hope that in this way we shall be able to keep sufficient control."

The Hon'ble COLONEL HARRIS said :—

"I would just like to say that I am in entire agreement with the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill, that it is not necessary at all to have a Registrar as a medical man. There are no strictly medical duties which the Registrar would have to perform. His duties are almost entirely clerical. His chief duty is to enter into a book certain qualifications which are given to him, and of the genuineness and registerability of which he is satisfied. There are no medical duties at all, and I do not see why a man with medical qualifications is required. It is more a man with commonsense and a man

Rai Nalinaksha Basu Bahadur; Mr. Stephenson.

who is a strong man, at the same time a man with tact, who is required because he may sometimes have to deal with people who do not understand why their qualifications cannot be registered, and he should therefore possess the *suavitor in modo* with the *fortiter in re.*

I may point out that in the General Medical Council in England, which is a body much more concerned with strictly medical matters—for instance, it takes up the question of degrees and examinations and so on,—the present Registrar, Mr. James Robertson, is not a medical man. The Registrar of the Branch Council in Scotland, Mr. Roe, is not a medical man. The Registrar of the Branch Council in Ireland is not a medical man. The Registrar of the Bombay Medical Council, whom they have just appointed, is not a medical man. I do not see why any medical qualifications are necessary. I quite agree that he should be a good man of business, but he will have very little work to do, at any rate at first, and it must also be remembered that the Council will not have too much money to give in the way of salary. Moreover, I do not think that it necessary to engage a whole-time man for the appointment, if, as is likely, there may be only two or three meetings in the year. For these reasons, I am against the appointment of a medical man for the post.

There is another reason which I think has to be stated, that is to say, I think it will be a very unenviable post for a medical man. I as a medical man would not like to hold the office of Registrar, and have the possibility of people saying that I was approachable. I do not think that it would be a nice position at all for a medical man. At the College of Surgeons, which is a technical body, the Secretary, that is to say, the Registrar, is not a medical man; at the College of Physicians, he is not a medical man. Why, therefore, should we have a medical man for this Medical Act of ours?"

The motion was then put and lost.

Clause 16.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 22.—The Hon'ble Rai Nalinaksha Basu Bahadur moved that the words "duly registered under the postal rules" be inserted after the word "letter" in line 3 of clause 16 (*2*)."

He said :—

"This amendment, as well as the one which follows it, is a very simple amendment. From our experience, we say that letters not registered are often times miscarried. In order to ensure their safe delivery to the person addressed, I propose the letter be registered under the postal rules. This second amendment is proposed with a view that the Council may be satisfied that the letter addressed by it has reached its destination. I do not think it safe to erase the name of a registered practitioner without being sure that the letter sent by the Registrar has been received by the practitioner. I therefore hope that my amendment will find favour with the Member in charge of the Bill."

The Hon'ble Mr. STEPHENSON said :—

"I think the Hon'ble Member will find that this amendment is unnecessary. Section 28 of the General Clauses Act states that whenever any document is to be served by post, whether the expression served or given or sent, or any other expression, is used, the document is to be sent by registered post. Therefore the Hon'ble Member's amendment is altogether unnecessary."

The amendment was then, by leave of the President, withdrawn.

Rai Nalinaksha Basu Bahadur; Babu S. N. Ray; Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur.

The following motion was, by leave of the President, withdrawn :—

List of Amendments—Motion No. 23.—The Hon'ble Rai Nalinaksha Basu Bahadur to move that the words "notwithstanding that an acknowledgment by the addressee of the receipt of the said letter has been received" be inserted after the word "if" in line 7 of clause 16 (*2*).

Clause 17.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 24.—The Hon'ble Rai Nalinaksha Basu Bahadur moved that for the word "they," in line 1 of clause 17 (*b*), the following be substituted, namely :—

"the Council at a special meeting, by a resolution in favour of which not less than two-thirds of the members of the Council have voted."

He said :—

"My Lord, the charge of being guilty of infamous conduct by a practitioner in any professional respect is undoubtedly a very serious one, and if proved, it not only acts prejudicially in regard to his profession but casts a stigma on his character; it is therefore absolutely necessary that a thorough and impartial inquiry should be made by men who should be considered above all bias, and who, in the estimation of the accused and the general public, may have no reason or ground whatever to have a leaning for or against the accused. A Civil Surgeon of a district is generally the head medical officer of that district, and has a number of subordinates under him who are assistant as well as sub-assistant surgeons. All these men under the present rules are allowed to practise, and the contest as to who shall have the largest practice lies between the Government medical officers and the private practitioners, who, in the majority of cases, being masters of their whole time, are able to acquire the best practice. Consequently a sort of jealousy exists between the two classes of practitioners, and instances are not wanting that a Civil Surgeon's ears have been poisoned against private practitioners, if not deliberately, owing to unconscious bias against them. To guard against all possible contingencies I have proposed that the same rule as prevails in the municipalities and the District Boards with regard to the removal of a Chairman or a Vice-Chairman may be also laid down in this Bill. Section 24 of Bengal Act III of 1884 says a Chairman may be removed from his office by a resolution of the Commissioners in favour of which no less than two-thirds of the whole number of the Commissioners have given their votes at a meeting specially convened for the purpose. The Local Self-Government Act has a similar provision for the removal of a Vice-Chairman. I therefore humbly request that Your Lordship's Government may be pleased to take the above facts into their consideration."

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH RAY said :—

"I have nothing to say, but I support this amendment."

The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR said :—

"My main amendment is No. 27, but that is practically the same as that moved by my friend, the Hon'ble Rai Nalinaksha Basu Bahadur, with the exception that he wants to insert the words at the beginning, whereas I have given notice that the words should come at the close. Therefore, I submit that the principle being the same, I will support the amendment moved by the Hon'ble Rai Nalinaksha Basu Bahadur. It is for the Government to decide if they wish to accept the principle. In this connection I would only say that the two-thirds majority is the majority accepted by the Calcutta Municipal Act and in the other mufassal Municipalities Act, and I believe that the Government will not reject such an amendment, because such are important question as the refusal of registration and removal of names from the register should be decided by a two-thirds majority. It will be admitted

on all hands that the removal of names for misconduct should be at a full meeting and must be decided by two-thirds the number of total members present and not at a meeting where a snatch vote would obtain a decision. I believe that this harmless suggestion will be accepted by the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill."

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON said :—

"Your Excellency, the amendment under discussion requires that a two-thirds majority should be necessary before a member of the medical profession is found guilty of infamous conduct in professional respect. In framing this Bill the Government and the Select Committee avoided introducing the bludgeon clauses of the Bombay Act which gives the Government power to supersede the Council. To meet the fear that a bare majority on the particular point would not carry weight with the profession, the Select Committee introduced an appeal to the Local Government. As, however, there appears to be a considerable body of opinion that the question whether a member of the medical profession has been guilty of infamous conduct should not be decided by a bare majority, the Government would be prepared to accept an amendment providing for a two-thirds majority in the case both of refusing to put the name of a practitioner on the register and, under clause 24, of taking the name of a practitioner off the register. The exact form of the amendment which Government will be prepared to accept, I would rather take time to consider. Therefore I will ask Your Excellency's permission that this amendment and other amendments to clause 24 be postponed, until I have had time to consult the Secretary to the Council as to what form they should take."

THE PRESIDENT said :—

"It appears quite reasonable that the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill should have time to consider the form of amendment, and therefore I propose not to take this amendment now."

The discussion of the following motions was then postponed :—

Clause 17.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 24.—The Hon'ble Rai Nalinaksha Basu Bahadur to move that for the word "they," in line 1 of clause 17(*b*), the following be substituted, namely :—

"the Council at a special meeting, by a resolution in favour of which not less than two-thirds of the members of the Council have voted."

List of Amendments—Motion No. 25.—The Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Ray to move that for the word "they", in line 1 of clause 17 (*b*), the following be substituted, namely :—

"the Council at a special meeting, by a resolution in favour of which not less than two-thirds of the members of the Council have voted."

List of Amendments—Motion No. 26.—The Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Fazl-ul-Haq to move that the word "capacity" be substituted for the word "respect" in the last line of clause 17 (*b*).

List of Amendments—Motion No. 27.—The Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur to move that after the word "respect", at the end of clause 17 (*b*), the following be added, namely :—

"by a majority of at least two-thirds of the total number of members present and voting at a special meeting."

Babu Upendra Lal Ray; Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 28.—The Hon'ble Dr. Deba Prasad Sarbadhikari to move that after the word "respect", at the end of clause 17 (*b*), the following be added, namely :—

"by a majority of at least two-thirds of the total number of members present and voting at a special meeting."

List of Amendments—Motion No. 29.—The Hon'ble Babu Upendra Lal Ray to move that after the word "respect", at the end of clause 17 (*b*), the following be added, namely :—

"by a majority of at least two-thirds of the total number of members present and voting at a special meeting."

List of Amendments—Motion No. 30.—The Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Fazl-Haq to move that after the word "respect", at the end of clause 17 (*b*), the following be added, namely :—

"by a majority of at least two-thirds of the total number of members present and voting at a special meeting."

The Hon'ble Dr. Deba Prasad Sarbadhikari not being present, the following motion which stood in his name was held to be withdrawn :—

List of Amendments—Motion No. 31.—The Hon'ble Dr. Deba Prasad Sarbadhikari to move that the following proviso be added at the end of clause 17 (*b*), namely :—

"Provided also that any person the registration of whose name the Council have refused to permit may, if dissatisfied with such refusal, have recourse to the Civil Court in this behalf."

List of Amendments—Motion No. 32.—The Hon'ble Babu Upendra Lal Ray moved that the following proviso be added at the end of clause 17 (*b*), namely :—

"Provided also that any person the registration of whose name the Council have refused to permit may, if dissatisfied with such refusal, have recourse to the Civil Court in this behalf."

He said :—

"My Lord, I understand that the Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur has got an amendment identically worded as mine. I will accept what he has to say about it."

The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR said :—

"My Lord, in this Bill there is no definition of infamous conduct and this is left practically to the decision of the Council, without giving a right of appeal to a court of law. The amendment which I have the honour to propose would provide the safeguard should any injustice be done to any person the registration of whose name has been refused. The acceptance of this amendment will create great faith and will inspire great confidence in the people, especially in the medical profession, who have been very much perturbed since the introduction of the Bill. If this amendment, which has been suggested not only by my humble self but also by two other members of the Council, namely, the Hon'ble Dr. Sarbadhikari and the Hon'ble Babu Upendra Lal Ray, be accepted, I am sure it will inspire much confidence and the Bill will be denuded of some of the objectionable features which the medical profession apprehend. The resolutions of the meetings held in Calcutta also show that the medical profession and the public will be greatly conciliated if such a provision is inserted in the Bill. It will not hamper the Council in any way. A decision in a British court of justice will not only be acceptable to the party concerned but will satisfy the Council and the Government. In these circumstances I trust that this amendment which I have the honour to move will be accepted by the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill."

Mr. Stephenson; Babu Mahendra Nath Ray.

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON said :—

"Your Excellency, the first objection to the amendment is that it gives an appeal to the Civil Court from the decision of the Council. My second objection is that it brings in the Civil Court without clearly defining what the power of the Civil Court would be. The Civil Court has no right to come in because there is no definition of infamous conduct in the Act, and what constitutes infamous conduct depends on the standard of medical etiquette and morality at a definite place and time. We trust that the Council will consist of the best men in the medical profession in Bengal and they should be the final and only arbiters of medical etiquette and medical morality. Why should an appeal lie from their decision to a Munsif or Sub-Judge or even a High Court who may understand nothing of medical morality or etiquette. The whole object of the disciplinary powers given by the Bill is that the medical profession should rule itself and set up its own standard of medical professional etiquette and morality. It is contrary to the whole principle of the Medical Council in this aspect to set up a Sub-Judge or even the High Court as a superior arbiter on what constitutes professional misconduct. The interpretation of infamous conduct in a professional respect depends upon the standard of the profession in any particular time and place, and we hope that the Medical Council in Bengal will strive after the professional standard set up by the Medical Council at Home. It is not a question of the interpretation of law, but it is a question of applying the sanction of the professional public opinion, and surely the only body who can do that are the members of the profession. There is a further danger, I think, in setting up the law courts as a judge of infamous conduct. If we let in the Civil Courts we stereotype sooner or later a definition of infamous conduct, and retard rather than promote the raising of professional ideals. We trust that the ideals of the profession in Bengal will steadily rise as they have risen in England. That is the one object which is hoped for this Medical Registration Bill. If we once let in the legal profession to decide as to what medical etiquette is, we get the whole definition stereotyped and we once and for all block the progress of the ideals of the medical profession. I therefore oppose these amendments on the ground that they are against the whole spirit of the Bill and that they will block that progress of the medical profession which I sincerely hope for."

The Hon'ble BABU MAHENDRA NATH RAY said :—

"My Lord, I am sorry I cannot support this amendment. It is my duty to point out also that, when reference has been made to British courts of justice, the British courts of justice decline to interfere in cases where the General Council has after proper inquiry held that a person is guilty of infamous conduct. The only instance known as an exception to the case is that where it can be proved that the General Council has acted *mala fide*. Now having regard to the precautionary measures taken, namely, the opportunity given to the person accused of misconduct to appear by Counsel or pleader and the further precaution which has been promised of making it necessary that only two-thirds of the number of members can declare that a person is guilty of infamous conduct and that his name may not be registered, no question of *mala fide* can arise. I therefore am sorry that I cannot support this amendment."

The motion was then put and lost.

The following motions were then, by leave of the President, withdrawn :—

List of Amendments—Motion No. 33.—The Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur to move that the following proviso be added at the end of clause 17 (*b*), namely :—

> "Provided also that any person the registration of whose name the Council have refused to permit may, if dissatisfied with such refusal, have recourse to the Civil Court in this behalf."

Babu Upendra Lal Ray; Babu S. N. Banerji; Rai Nalinaksha Basu Bahadur.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 34.—The Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Faz-ul-Haq to move that the following proviso be added at the end of clause 17 (*b*), namely :—

"Provided also that any person the registration of whose name the Council have refused to permit may, if dissatisfied with such refusal, have recourse to the Civil Court in this behalf."

The Hon'ble Dr. Deba Prasad Sarbadhikari not being present, the following motion, which stood in his name, was held to be withdrawn :—

List of Amendments—Motion No. 35.—The Hon'ble Dr. Deba Prasad Sarbadhikari to move that the following further proviso be added at the end of clause 17 (*b*), namely :—

"Provided further that the decision of the Council shall be subject to confirmation at a subsequent meeting by the same majority as hereinbefore in this section provided."

List of Amendments—Motion No. 36.—The Hon'ble Babu Upendra Lal Ray moved that the following further proviso be added at the end of clause 17 (*b*), namely :—

"Provided further that the decision of the Council shall be subject to confirmation at a subsequent meeting by the same majority as hereinbefore in this section provided."

He said :—

"My Lord, this is a simple suggestion and this practice obtains with regard to the proceedings of all public bodies—I mean the District Boards and municipalities and other public bodies of a similar nature, and my suggestion is of a humble nature, and I believe there will be no objection to its acceptance by the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill. Any resolution passed at a meeting is confirmed at the next meeting, and after that it is accepted. This suggestion of mine is of a formal nature, and I trust the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill will have no objection to accept it."

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI said :—

"My Lord, I feel some difficulty in supporting this amendment. My friend has referred to the proceedings of Municipal Committees. I have been a member of a Municipal Committee for the past 25 years. We confirm our proceedings, which means that we say that the record is a correct one. No question which has been once settled will be reopened at a subsequent period. If the suggestion contained in the amendment is accepted, then matters will have to be discussed over and over again. Surely it is not one which the Council will accept. This ought to be left to the Medical Council itself. Any rules regarding the confirmation of proceedings is a matter which I think ought to be left to the Council itself. I hope my friend will withdraw his amendment."

The Hon'ble RAI NALINAKSHA BASU BAHADUR said :—

"I also think that what confirmation means is that the proceedings have been faithfully recorded. Therefore this amendment is quite unnecessary."

The Hon'ble BABU UPENDRA LAL RAY said :—

"With Your Excellency's permission I beg to withdraw the amendment."

The motion was then, by leave of the President, withdrawn.

The following motion was, by leave of the President, withdrawn :—

List of Amendments—Motion No. 37.—The Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur to move that the following further proviso be added at the end of clause 17 (*b*), namely :—

"Provided further that the decision of the Council shall be subject to confirmation at a subsequent meeting by the same majority as hereinbefore in this section provided."

Clause 18.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 38.—The Hon'ble Dr. Deba Prasad Sarbadhikari moved that the following be substituted for clause 18, namely :—

"18. If it shall appear to the Local Government, whether on the report of the Council or otherwise,—

(*a*) that any title granted or qualification certified by any University, Medical Corporation, examining body or other Institution is a sufficient guarantee that persons possessing such title or qualification possess the knowledge and skill requisite for the efficient practice of medicine, surgery and midwifery, or

(*b*) that any title or qualification referred to in the Schedule is not a sufficient guarantee as aforesaid,

the Local Government may, by notification in the *Calcutta Gazette*, direct that—

(*i*) in case (*a*)—the possession of such title or qualification shall, subject to the provisions hereinafter contained and on payment of such fee as may be prescribed in this behalf by regulation made under section 29, entitle any person to have his name entered in the register of registered practitioners, or

(*ii*) in case (*b*)—the possession of such title or qualification shall not entitle any person to have his name entered in the said register;

and the Schedule shall thereupon be deemed to be altered accordingly".

He said :—

"The difference between clause 18, as it has been drafted and as I propose that it should be altered, is that the Local Government should have the ultimate power of deciding the matter instead of the Council. The Council in the first instance would have to report on the matter after going into the details, and as important questions of principle are involved, I suggest that, instead of the Council, the Local Government should have the ultimate authority to deal with it. The difference is that the initiative may be taken by others and not by the Council only. That is an advantage that this amendment will have if it is accepted, and it is an advantage of no mean value. It is quite possible that the Council may not see reasons which may actuate others, and those reasons may be powerful enough if they are placed before the Government in a proper manner. So far as the Government are concerned, this power under clause 18, as it stands, is entirely dependent upon the recommendation of the Council, but here, with the words emphasized there—'If it so appeared to the Local Government, whether on the report of the Council or otherwise'—then all that is provided for in clause 18 will be

possible. Of course, this does not weaken the Council in any way : it would not be possible to weaken in any way the authority of the Council. The question of initiative only is here concerned. It would, of course, be possible if, on the initiative of others, it should be taken that reference to the Council may be necessary, but the matter ought not to be entirely dependent on the initiative of the Council. That is the reason why I hope the amendment will commend itself to Government."

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON said :—

"Your Excellency, I was rather surprised that the Hon'ble Member, the Vice-Chancellor of the University, should move this amendment. In the original Bill there was a provision that the Council might, if they were satisfied that any qualifications given, including the qualifications given by the Calcutta University, were not sufficient guarantees of efficiency, move the Local Government to alter the schedule so as to exclude those qualifications. The Select Committee removed this provision, and provided that the Council should only have this power in regard to any title or qualification referred to in article III of the Schedule, which excludes the University degrees from the purview of the Medical Council, and does not give the Medical Council power to interfere with University degrees. We now have the Vice-Chancellor of the University wishing to put back into the Bill the original form, giving the Medical Council power to say or to report to the Local Government that any title or qualification referred to in the Schedule is not a sufficient guarantee of efficiency. He therefore restores to the Medical Council the power over the Calcutta University degrees which the Select Committee agreed should be taken away. Apart from that, the object of the Hon'ble Member is to enable the Local Government to go behind the Council. Under the Bill as it stands the application for what I may call affiliation must come for approval to the Council ; if the Council agree that there is a sound case, they will send it on to the Local Government. If they do not agree that there is a sound case, the matter drops. The Hon'ble Member wants to give the Government power to take the matter up again. We considered this question in Select Committee, and deliberately came to the conclusion that the Bill as it stands embodies a sound principle. We have set up a Medical Council ; surely it is right that we should leave that Medical Council to do its own work. The question whether the training in a particular school or college is sufficient to guarantee efficiency is one which the Medical Council is admirably qualified to decide, and is really much more qualified to decide than are the Local Government. The Local Government, if they take it up, must do so, in contravention of the opinion of the Council. We reserve to the Local Government the power to veto. I think that it is the right principle to leave the Council to do its own work, and give the Local Government the power to veto. For these reasons I oppose this amendment. The effect of the amendment would be to take away from the Council the work which is theirs ; they only come in in common with fifty other different sources of information to the Local Government. The Council of Medical Registration are the best judges of what is the proper equipment of a school, and the teaching and training to be carried out in that school ; and the responsibility should be with them and not with the Government."

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI said :—

"I think, my Lord, that there is a slight misapprehension on the part of my Hon'ble friend who has opposed this motion. The effect of my friend's amendment is not to give the sole power of initiative to the Council. It is not to take away the power of initiative from the Council at all, but to take away the sole power of initiative. The Council will have the sole power of initiative in ordinary cases, but it will be open in some cases for bodies outside the Council to take up the matter and appeal to Government. I do not think that there is any attempt, so far as this amendment is concerned, to

Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur; Dr. D. P. Sarbadhikari; Dr. Nilratan Sarkar.

throw the Council overboard, or to minimise or to reduce its importance, or to take away from it any power which is now vested in the Council under the Bill, but to make it possible in certain cases, which are conceivable, in which the Council has not moved, to have that power given to some other body. I think that there is not the smallest desire on the part of my friend who has moved the amendment to deprive the Council of the power of initiative, or to minimise the importance of the Council or to take from the Council the power to initiate; and under these circumstances I trust that my Hon'ble friend's amendment will be accepted."

The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR said :—

"My Lord, I quite understand that the Council will be the best body of men to consider these questions, but, as I understand the motion of the Hon'ble Deba Prasad Sarbadhikari, where representation is made to the Local Government, the Local Government will no doubt refer the representation to the Council for consideration, and on the advice of the Council the Local Government perhaps will publish a notification in the Gazette, as suggested in this amendment. I do not think that the Local Government would do anything on the representation of any outside body without consultation with the Council, and in that sense the amendment seems to be quite right."

The Hon'ble DR. DEBA PRASAD SARBADHIKARI said :—

"My Lord, I do not quite follow my friend's pleasantry when he expressed surprise at the Vice-Chancellor of the University bringing up an amendment like this. If the Calcutta University qualification is likely to be challenged at any time, it can be done under the clause, as drafted, because in sub-clause (*b*) we have it already stated that if any title or qualification required by the Schedule is not a sufficient guarantee, they have the right to go up to the Local Government for modification with regard to that qualification. Therefore, nothing very revolutionary has been attempted by the amendment by the Vice-Chancellor of the University, on which so much stress has been laid. All that is attempted in this amendment, as has been pointed out by the previous speakers, is that the initiative should not be exclusively confined to the Council, but if others feel any grievance, either as to the exclusion or inclusion of any qualification, they should have the right of approaching the Local Government with regard to remedies, though the Council for its own reasons may not. As I have said, it is inconceivable that the Local Government should proceed to take action without referring to the Council. That is not a matter with which we are concerned, but it is conceivable, my Lord, that an outside representation may fall flat if sent up to the Council, whereas it might not do so if it reached the Government, to which we desire to have access in cases of necessity. That is the object of the amendment, and it is not intended to lower the status of the University at all."

The motion was then put and lost.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 39.—The Hon'ble DR. NILRATAN SARKAR said :—

"My Lord, my amendment is on a somewhat different line from the above, though meaning the same thing. I propose that clause 18 be numbered as sub-clause (*1*) of that clause, and that the following be added, namely :—

'(2) Notwithstanding anything contained in sub-section (*1*), the Local Government may, on their own motion and after such inquiry as they may think necessary, direct such additions to, and alterations in, the said Schedule as are referred to in the said sub-section'.

My Lord, I do not wish that any powers should be taken away from the Council; nor is it necessary that the Government should always interfere with their work; but, situated as it will be, the Council will be formed of medical men belonging to only one section of the profession; and now and again the question of recognizing such colleges or such institutions as, from

the point of view of the Council, it would not be desirable to recognize, might arise. In such circumstances the Government would be a far better judge than the Council, consisting of medical men belonging to only one branch of the profession. Unfortunately, there are different branches of the profession, and it is necessary that justice should be done to all. There are no homeopathic colleges here now, but there are homeopathic colleges in America and other countries. The question of recognizing the degrees of their graduates might arise from time to time. That is a thing which is very ticklish to medical men. As a speaker in the Mother of Parliaments once said, if Jenner or Harvey had been living in 1858, none of them would have been permitted to be registered as registered medical practitioners. My amendment only seeks to enable the Government to come to the rescue of the situation under such circumstances. It does not mean any interference at all. It does not mean any want of confidence in the Council at all, or in any members of the Council. The Council will do their work smoothly, but from time to time occasions might arise when the interference of the Government might be necessary. I am not singular in bringing forward this proposal The Bombay Act, in fact, goes much further than this. There, of course, the whole power is centered in the Government—see section 20 of that Act. The Madras Act also reserves the same power for the Government: it is only in Calcutta that we hear that we want to place unnecessary powers in the hands of the Government, and we want the Government to supersede the Council. In fact, that is not the object at all. The object is only to reserve sufficient powers for the Government to interfere when exceptional cases may arise."

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON said :—

"The Council have already rejected the provision in the Bombay Act, section 20. The present amendment does not go so far as that, but it gives the Local Government power, on their own motion, and after such enquiry as they may think necessary, to direct alteration or addition to the Schedule. I object to this amendment on precisely the same grounds as the last one. We deliberately set up the Council to do this work. I took some credit to the Government just now for not bringing in a bludgeoning section. The Hon'ble Member now wishes to have the bludgeoning section in, in order that the Government shall keep the Medical Council up to its work. I have greater faith in the Medical Council than the Hon'ble Member. It must be remembered that the particular point with which the amendment deals is only in regard to recognizing schools, and it does not affect individuals. Surely a medical council consisting of 15 members, the most prominent members of their profession in Bengal, is in a better position than the Local Government to say what is the right training, and whether a school is adopting that training and has a right standard of equipment. The whole object of this amendment is to get an appeal from the Medical Council where the Medical Council does not consider that the standard is sufficient. I do not think that in a matter of this kind there should be an appeal. The Hon'ble Member is evidently afraid that the Medical Council will set up too high a standard. Well, I think that at all events this is a fault on the right side, and I would rather leave the Medical Council to set up too high a standard than interfere and have an appeal to the Local Government, thereby weakening all sense of responsibility of the Medical Council."

The motion was then put and lost.

The following motion was, by leave of the President, withdrawn :—

List of Amendments—Motion No. 40.—The Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Ray to move that clause 18 be numbered as sub-clause (*1*) of that clause, and that the following be added, namely :—

"(*2*) If in any case the Council refuse to make a report as provided in sub-section (*1*), it shall be lawful for any person whose application in this behalf has been rejected by them to appeal to the Local Government, whose decision shall be final".

Babu S. N. Ray; Mr. Stephenson; Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur; Colonel Harris.

Clause 20.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 41.—The Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Ray moved that the words "on payment of such fee as may be prescribed in this behalf by regulation made under section 29," in lines 5 and 6 of clause 20, be omitted.

He said :—

"This again, my Lord, is a question of fees. The section is: If any person whose name is entered in the register of registered practitioners obtains any title or qualification other than the title or qualification in respect of which he has been registered, he shall, on payment of such fee as may be prescribed in this behalf by regulation made under section 29, be entitled to have an entry stating such other title or qualification made against his name in the register, either in substitution for, or in addition to, any entry previously made.

I really cannot understand, my Lord, why a person, say an M.B., who gets the title of M.D., should have to pay again a fee to have his name registered as an M.D.

I can very well understand that the Council which is going to be constituted will be impecunious, but it ought not for that reason to be mercenary."

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON said :—

"In my position as Finance Secretary my feelings were with the Hon'ble Member when he objected to the payment of fees, but I cannot go with him when he objects to the receipt of them. The Medical Council will have very few sources of income; these fees are one. Secondly, the Medical Council at Home charges fees for this same registration. It is the same in Bombay and Madras, and the fees are to be prescribed by the Medical Council, subject to the sanction of the Local Government. I think the Hon'ble Member may rest assured that they will not be such as will break any medical practitioner. I should not be willing to deprive the Medical Council of this small additional source of income."

The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR said :—

"I think, my Lord, this is a very small matter. The medical practitioners who register themselves may recoup themselves in more ways than one by the extensive practice which it is hoped they will enjoy through being registered under this Act."

The Hon'ble COLONEL HARRIS said :—

"May I say a few words on the subject? I cannot understand why there should be any objection to medical practitioners paying a fee. It will only be a small fee in India for registration. I do not think that any practitioner will object to pay this small fee. It is quite optional on the part of practitioners to register additional qualifications or not. They are not obliged to do so in England, and they will not be obliged to do so here. As has been mentioned by the Hon'ble Mr. Stephenson, the Member in charge of the Bill, these fees are charged to practitioners in Great Britain who register, and I do not know of any case in which they have objected to pay them. Recently, quite recently—by the last mail's papers—the question was raised in the House of Parliament; I forget who raised it. The Secretary was asked whether practitioners should continue to pay fees for registration, and the answer given by the Hon'ble Mr. McKenna, after consulting the Medical Council, was that the Medical Council reported that they could not possibly do without the income they got from these fees. Last year the income they got was £750. It is not very much if you consider that these fees form the only income from which the staff will be paid. In fact, there is only one other source of income that this Council of Medical Registration will have, that is, the sale of registers. There is no other source of income, and they

must have some income; and as I said before, I do not anticipate that there will be any objection on the part of practitioners. In Bombay, the charge is Rs. 15, in Madras, Rs. 15; that is for the first registration, and for the registration of new titles in Madras and Bombay it is Rs. 5 for additional Indian qualifications, and Rs. 10 for foreign qualifications; so it is not a very large sum. I do not think this amendment ought to be accepted."

The motion was then, by leave of the President, withdrawn.

Clause 22.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 42.—The Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Ray moved that the words "or, if the decision of the Council is adverse to him, to the Local Government" be inserted after the word "Council" in the last line of clause 22.

He said:—

"The clause runs: If any person is dissatisfied with any decision of the Registrar, refusing to enter the name or any title or qualification of such person in the register of registered practitioners, he may, at any time within three months from the date of such decision, appeal to the Council, whose decision shall be final.

My amendment is to this effect; 'in case of that decision being adverse to him, to the Local Government'. Here the power of an appeal is given to the Council, and not to the Local Government—while in clause 24(*a*) an appeal shall lie to the Local Government from any decision of the Council under clause 17 or clause 24. When an appeal is given against orders under clause 17 or 24, I think, my Lord, there ought to be an appeal also in cases where there is an order under clause 22."

The Hon'ble Mr. STEPHENSON said:—

"I am not quite sure what amendment the Hon'ble Member is taking up."

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH RAY said:—

"My amendment is to the effect that after the word 'Council' the following words be substituted: 'or in case of their decision being adverse to him, to the Local Government'."

The Hon'ble Mr. STEPHENSON said:—

"Your Excellency, the object of this amendment is to give a second appeal in a case where the Registrar has not entered a name in the register. The Registrar can only refuse when he is not satisfied that the applicant has registrable qualification. If so, it is a question of facts. There is no discretion given to the Registrar; he has got to be satisfied that the applicant has got those particular qualifications. If he is not satisfied, then he does not enter the name of the applicant. If registration is refused, then there is an appeal from the Registrar to the Council, and the Council, I say, is obviously much better qualified than the Local Government to decide whether the qualifications claimed are actually held. If registration is refused on any other ground, it must be under clause 17, which provides for an appeal to the Local Government. For these reasons the amendment should be opposed."

The Hon'ble Dr. DEBA PRASAD SARBADHIKARI said:—

"My Lord, in view of the opinion taken by the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill, I find that even the first appeal could hardly be permissible or necessary if it is a question of finding out whether any particular individual is a holder of recognized degrees. The Registrar in such a case would not and can never go wrong. It is only when some question or other that might

interfere with his judgment in the matter arises that he expresses his doubt by refusing to register his name. What is a Registrar? He is an executive authority. He is only a hand of the Council, and therefore what the Registrar does is the Council's work. Can there be an appeal from the work of the same body to itself? If an appeal is really permissible, it ought to be to somebody other than that whose action is to be appealed against. Ordinarily, of course, no questions like these are likely to arise, and I cannot imagine cases in which the Registrar will be called upon to decide mere questions of facts that may have to be put right by the Council. The class of question that may arise—but I hope will not—will be somewhat like those that my friend Dr. Nilratan Sarkar has alluded to. For example, a holder of a recognized degree or qualification is following a method of practice that may not commend itself either to the Registrar or to the Council, and not impossibly, he may find himself in a difficulty. Cases like this are rare, and an appeal to the Government will only in these cases be necessary. For example, if an M. B. of the Calcutta University practising homeopathy or the Ayurvedic system were to apply for registration, doubts may arise in the mind of the Registrar as to whether he could allow the name of the applicant to be registered, and it is not unlikely that his doubts will be shared by the Council. In a case like that an appeal to the Council would be almost meaningless."

The Hon'ble BABU MAHENDRA NATH RAY said :—

"I am afraid there is misapprehension somewhere. The duties of the Registrar are defined in clause 19. He has got to see whether a man comes within the Schedule or not, and the Schedule gives the precise list of qualifications, and what the Registrar has to do is to see whether a certain application for registration as a medical practitioner comes within the different clauses of the Schedule or not. No question requiring discretion or exercise of judgment can possibly arise, but the Registrar may make mistakes with regard to the meaning of certain words in the Schedule, and it is then that an appeal is given to the Council, and that I think ought to be enough. I see on comparing with the English Acts that an appeal is given generally to the General Council, and in special cases, to the Local Council, and that is deemed enough. I do not therefore see why there should be an appeal to the Local Government. My friend Dr. Sarbadhikari is evidently thinking of cases where the Registrar may, in the exercise of his discretion, refuse to register the applicant. Such a thing, if the Registrar understands his statutory duties, cannot possibly happen."

The motion was then put and lost.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 43.—The Hon'ble Rai Nalinaksha Basu Bahadur moved that the following proviso be added at the end of clause 22, namely :—

> "Provided that it shall be lawful for the Local Government, if they see fit, to revise the decision of the Council at any time within six months from the date thereof."

He said :—

"My Lord, under this clause the Council has been made the final authority refusing the registration of a practitioner's name or his qualifications. But as the matter involved, with regard to which the decision of the Council has been stated to be final, is a very important one and may seriously affect his practice, I humbly beg that power may be given to the Government to revise the order of the Council. My amendment is a very simple one, and it does not militate against any of the main provisions of the Bill and I hope it may be accepted. As some time will be required to get copies of papers, I think six months' time is not too much."

Mr. Stephenson; Rai Nalinaksha Basu Bahadur.

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON said :—

"Your Excellency, it is unnecessary for me to dilate on the point contained in this amendment. I have already pointed out that the power of revision asked for is against the refusal to enter an applicant's name in the register. If the Council is convinced that they had made a mistake, there is nothing whatever to prevent it introducing his name again later on. It is not as if the Council having once passed an order that this man's name would not be entered, the question would never be reopened. There is therefore no necessity for bringing in a provision of this nature."

The Hon'ble RAI NALINAKSHA BASU BAHADUR said :—

"My Lord, I say that if a mistake is made and if circumstances are shown, then certainly Government must have power of revising the order of the Council, though I do not say that as a matter of fact he will have a right of appeal. But only in certain cases power to revise must be given to the highest authority, and as Government is the highest authority in the land, I hope that power will be reserved to it."

The motion was then put and lost.

The discussion of the following motions was postponed :—

Clause 24.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 44.—The Hon'ble Mr. Chakravarti to move that after the word "direct", in line 1 of clause 24, the following be added, namely :—

"by a majority of at least two-thirds of the total number of members present and voting at a special meeting."

List of Amendments—Motion No. 45.—The Hon'ble Dr. Deba Prasad Sarbadhikari to move that after the word "direct", in line 1 of clause 24, the following be added, namely :—

"by a majority of at least two-thirds of the total number of members present and voting at a special meeting."

List of Amendments—Motion No. 46.—The Hon'ble Babu Upendra Lal Ray to move that after the word "direct", in line 1 of clause 24, the following be added, namely :—

"by a majority of at least two-thirds of the total number of members present and voting at a special meeting."

List of Amendments—Motion No. 47.—The Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur to move that after the word "direct", in line 1 of clause 24, the following be added, namely :—

"by a majority of at least two-thirds of the total number of members present and voting at a special meeting."

List of Amendments—Motion No. 48.—The Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Fazl-ul-Haq to move that after the word "direct", in line 1 of clause 24 the following be added, namely :—

"by a majority of at least two-thirds of the total number of members present and voting at a special meeting."

Rai Nalinaksha Basu Bahadur.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 49.—The Hon'ble Rai Nalinaksha Basu Bahadur to move that the following be substituted for clause 24 (*a*) (*ii*), namely :—

"whom the Council have, after due inquiry held and by decision arrived at in the manner provided in clause (*b*) of section 17, found guilty of infamous conduct in any professional respect."

List of Amendments—Motion No. 50.—The Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Ray to move that the words "at least two-thirds of the members of the Council" be substituted for the word "they" in line 1 of clause 24 (*a*) (*ii*).

The following motions were, by leave of the President, withdrawn :—

List of Amendments—Motion No. 51.—The Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur to move that the following proviso be added at the end of clause 24, namely :—

"Provided that, in case (*ii*), the decision of the Council shall be subject to confirmation at a subsequent meeting by the same majority as hereinbefore in this section provided."

List of Amendments—Motion No. 52.—The Hon'ble Dr. Deba Prasad Sarbadhikari to move that the following proviso be added at the end of clause 24, namely :—

"Provided that, in case (*ii*), the decision of the Council shall be subject to confirmation at a subsequent meeting by the same majority as hereinbefore in this section provided."

List of Amendments—Motion No. 53.—The Hon'ble Mr. Chakravarti to move that the following proviso be added at the end of clause 24, namely :—

"Provided that, in case (*ii*), the decision of the Council shall be subject to confirmation at a subsequent meeting by the same majority as hereinbefore in this section provided."

List of Amendments—Motion No. 54.—The Hon'ble Babu Upendra Lal Ray to move that the following proviso be added at the end of clause 24, namely :—

"Provided that, in case (*ii*), the decision of the Council shall be subject to confirmation at a subsequent meeting by the same majority as hereinbefore in this section provided."

Clause 24A.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 55.—The Hon'ble Rai Nalinaksha Basu Bahadur moved that for clause 24A (*1*) the following be substituted. namely :—

"(1) An appeal from every decision of the Council under section 17 or section 24 shall, at the option of the appellant, lie either to the Local Government or to the High Court."

He said :—

"My Lord, by this amendment I have slightly changed the wording of the clause drafted by the Select Committee. Under its provisions an appeal lies to the Local Government ; but I have proposed that option should be given to the appellant either to appeal to the Government or to the High Court. As the Council will have to take evidence and hear parties and their pleaders and exercise judicial powers in arriving at a conclusion, it is but

Mr. Stephenson; Dr. D. P. Sarbadhikari; Babu Mahendra Nath Ray.

reasonable that an appeal should be to the highest Court exercising judicial power. I have, however, given the appellant the option to appeal to the Government if he likes. I hope the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill will kindly agree to my amendment."

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON said :—

"Your Excellency, the amendment proposes a double line of appeal at the option of the appellant either to the Local Government or to the High Court. I do not think that the double line of appeal can be justified. We have already given the right to appeal to the Local Government in order to meet the objection to a decision of a bare majority of the Council. We discussed in the Select Committee the question as to where the appeal should lie. In England, as has already been pointed out, the Law Courts have no jurisdiction in such matters and the utmost they will do is to see whether there was a due inquiry. We have already provided a two-thirds majority in the Bill and made provision for a due inquiry. The only appeal in England is to the Privy Council—not in the judicial but in the executive branch. Following the principle in England, the appeal should be to the Local Government. I have heard nothing said in favour of giving two alternative lines of appeal. If this amendment is accepted, the result would be conflicting decisions as to what infamous conduct means. The decision of the High Court would not bind the Local Government, and the High Court are hardly likely to bind themselves in any way by the decision of the Local Government. For these reasons I would oppose the amendment."

The motion was then put and lost.

Clause 24 B.

The Hon'ble Mr. Chakravarti not being then present, the following motion which stood in his name was held to be withdrawn :—

List of Amendments—Motion No. 56.—The Hon'ble Mr. Chakravarti to move that clause 24 B be omitted.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 57.—The Hon'ble Dr. Deba Prasad Sarbadhikari moved that clause 24 B be omitted.

He said :—

"My Lord, this clause was not a part of the original draft, but I gather has been incorporated by the Select Committee. No special reason has been given as to why such a measure is necessary. I can quite understand objections to the double line of appeal dealt with by the previous amendment. But if any one has a reasonable cause of action, why the ways of King's Courts should be barred by us, has not been explained, and that is what I have not been able to understand. My Lord, of course, if there is really any danger of fomenting litigation unnecessarily by allowing suits of this description, one can imagine why such a measure should be necessary. There is no suggestion that such a drastic measure for thwarting them is necessary. I know that in Madras some enactment has been prescribed. There they may or may not have any reason for doing so. The facts are not before us to show what justification there was for the inclusion of this provision. Of course this Council has power and the majority may decide that such things may not happen. Unless it is clearly and abundantly shown as to why peoples' right to the sovereign courts should be taken away from them, I think a clause like this should not be allowed to stand."

The Hon'ble BABU MAHENDRA NATH RAY said :—

"May I ask the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill whether the Madras Bill has been passed into law?"

Mr. Stephenson; Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur; Rai Nalinaksha Basu Bahadur; Babu S. N. Banerji.

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON said :—

"I have heard that the discussion on the Bill has been completed and that the Council thereupon adjourned. I cannot say whether it has been actually passed or not. I have no information."

The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR said :—

"I have also given notice of a similar motion. Therefore I will support the amendment. I see from the proceedings of the Select Committee that this clause was not in the original Bill and its introduction was objected to in the Committee by my friend the Hon'ble Dr. Nilratan Sarkar. Further, I want to point out that there are various provisions in the Bill which have been, notwithstanding the difference of opinion from this side, accepted by this House, and which makes the decision of the Council final in all matters, and in others the decision of the Local Government as final. Having regard to these facts I do not see any reason why this clause was inserted, especially when it was not in the original Bill, which was introduced, I believe, with the sanction of the Government of India and the Secretary of State. I am not aware whether this clause has been inserted after a reference to the Secretary of State. But whatever may be the case, I think that if any reasonable cause of action arises, quite apart from the provisions of the Bill which make the order of the Council final in almost all instances, that valued privilege of reference to a court of law should not be taken away. I think an insertion of such a provision in the Act takes away that right which every citizen now enjoys, and, therefore, I think, the insertion of this clause at this stage of the Bill should be allowed by the Council."

The Hon'ble RAI NALINAKSHA BASU BAHADUR said :—

"My Lord, in my humble opinion the clause has been very vaguely worded. I do not understand whether this clause has been inserted to indemnify the Council against any of its acts or to bar a suit with respect to matters decided by it. As the wording now stands, it is susceptible of the interpretation that it bars all sorts of suits. In every civil matter the Civil Courts have jurisdiction unless their jurisdiction is purposely taken away by enactments. Has any case been made out why the Civil Courts should be deprived of their powers to interfere with the decision passed by this Council? It is in my humble opinion doubtful whether the general powers of a Civil Court can be taken away by a local Council. Be that what it may, I do not find any reason is assigned to bar the remedy under the common law. For the above reasons I beg to support the amendment."

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI said :—

"I desire to say one word with regard to this matter. If this clause were not inserted in the Bill, I take it that any aggrieved person would have had a right of appeal to the Civil Court. Therefore the insertion of the clause takes away from him what may be regarded as a natural, indefeasible and inalienable right. That being so, it is incumbent on the part of those who have inserted this clause to make out their case. Have they made out their case? We do not find the slightest indication of anything like a justification for the insertion of this clause in the statement made by the majority of the Select Committee or in the note of dissent. I was not a member of the Select Committee, but I learn from those who were members of that Committee, that in the original Bill this clause did not find a place, and that it came to be inserted subsequently as the result of the deliberations of the Select Committee. We should like to have the reasons for this change. This clause found no place in the original Bill and

how came it about subsequently that this clause was inserted? These are pertinent questions which I think the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill should answer and in regard to which the public demand a satisfactory explanation from the Government. It is a very serious matter to encroach upon the rights of a citizen, whether he be a doctor, a lawyer or an engineer. When you make up your mind to take away a right—a right which is safeguarded by law—I think it is incumbent upon the Government to come forward with the amplest and most satisfactory reasons for justifying the insertion of a clause of this nature. No such justification for the clause has yet been forthcoming from the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill."

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON said:—

"I have listened carefully to the observations made by the Hon'ble Members to find out what terrible crime is being committed by clause 24B. I am told in the first instance that it takes away an inalienable right. If the right is inalienable, how can it be taken away?

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI said:—

"It can be taken away by the Sovereign."

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON, continuing, said:—

"I am told that it takes away a valuable right enjoyed by the people. I know that it does nothing of the kind. The rights are not there. Until the Bill is passed there is no question either of giving the right to appeal or of taking it away. Secondly, I am told that it was not in the original Bill. Certainly it was not in the original Bill, neither was the appeal to the Local Government. I have already explained that in the Select Committee the appeal to the Local Government was given to meet the objection that the decision of a bare majority on the Council would not carry weight. The Select Committee therefore decided to give an appeal to the Local Government. I have already discussed in connection with another amendment the question as to where the appeal should go to. We decided that it should go to the Local Government. This Council has decided that it should go to the Local Government, and having decided that, surely it is only consistent to rule out all other lines of appeal. Surely the Select Committee would have been lacking in their duty if after allowing the right of appeal to the Local Government, it had not avoided the possibility of future confusion by definitely declaring that there was no right of resort to the Civil Court.

The Hon'ble MR. CHAKRAVARTI said:—

"I wish to say a few words, my Lord, with regard to this amendment. It seems to me that the amendment is a very reasonable amendment because it provides a method of scrutiny into an act which must be of a quasi-judicial character and because I take it that the action of the Council will be of a quasi-Judicial character. Why should there be any apprehension that the decision arrived at by the Council should be subjected to the consideration by some other authority? One notices with a certain amount of regret that sort of apprehension of matters being considered by the constituted tribunals of the country. It is only having either the Civil Courts or the Government to interfere on a proper case being made out, and one cannot apprehend that either the Civil Courts or the Government will interfere in a case in which there need be no interference. It is only giving an opportunity for a person aggrieved by a decision of the Council, which after all is in the nature of a judgment in regard to his conduct, to have the matter settled either before the Civil Court or the High Court."

The motion was then put and lost.

Dr. D. P. Sarbadhikari.

The following motions were, by leave of the President, withdrawn :—

List of Amendmonts—Motion No. 58.—The Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Ray to move that clause 24B be omitted.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 59.—The Hon'ble Rai Nalinaksha Basu Bahadur to move that clause 24B omitted.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 60.—The Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur to move that clause 24B be omitted.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 61.—The Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Faz-ul-Haq to move that clause 24B be omitted.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 62.—If motion No. 56 be not carried, the Hon'ble Mr. Chakravarti to move that the following words be inserted at the commencement of clause 24B, namely :—

"Save as hereinbefore provided."

List of Amendments—Motion No. 63.—If motion No. 57 be not carried, the Hon'ble Dr. Deba Prasad Sarbadhikari to move that the following words be inserted at the commencement of clause 24B, namely :—

"Save as hereinbefore provided."

List of Amendments—Motion No. 64.—If motion No. 60 be not carried, the Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur to move that the following words be inserted at the commencement of clause 24B, namely :—

"Save as hereinbefore provided."

Clause 27.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 65.—The Hon'ble Dr. Deba Prasad Sarbadihkari moved that clause 27 be omitted.

He said :—

"My Lord, the clause is in the following terms :—

'The expression "legally qualified medical practitioner," or "duly qualified medical practitioner," and all other expressions importing a person recognized by law as a medical practitioner or a member of the medical profession, as used in any Bengal Act or any Act of the Governor General of India in Council in force in Bengal, shall be deemed to mean a medical practitioner registered under the Medical Acts or this Act; and no certificate *required to be* given by any medical practitioner or medical officer under any Bengal Act or any Act of the Governor General of India in Council in force in Bengal shall be valid unless such practitioner or officer is registered under the Medical Acts or this Act.'

My Lord, in the Objects and Reasons of this Bill we are clearly told that all that was intended by the Bill was to have registration of certain classes of medical practitioners. No attempt, according to the Objects and Reasons, was to be made for constituting the Council into a body to determine upon qualifications. If the Act required duly qualified medical practitioners to do certain things, it is really merely the ascertainment of the qualifications that this Bill is concerned with. The extraneous accident of a man being on a certain register or not cannot take away from his intrinsic qualifications. If he is qualified to do that which that Act contemplates, no other Act can take away from him that qualification, except of course in a definite and openly specified way and not by mere implication. If a degree is taken away from him, of course his qualification ceases. His qualification is inherent, and can never otherwise cease, and this Bill cannot take away that qualification from him. It is an act almost of injustice to the practitioner. The

Hon'ble Dr. Harris has told us on the question of fees for registration—hardships regarding which were pointed out by a previous speaker—that it is quite optional for a man to come on the register or not: no one compels him to do so. I take it that he is quite serious when he says so. If then for any reason a man does not want to go on the register, does not want the advantage of being registered, why should his qualifications be taken away? For that reason, my Lord, I submit that this clause ought to be omitted. There is another aspect of the question, and that is injustice not only to the practitioner himself, but also to the public. Supposing a large body of practitioners do not choose to come on the register, which after all is a mere register, as the promoters of the Bill have often said, why should they be deprived of the inherent and hitherto existing advantages of their qualifications?"

The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR said:—

"My Lord, I have a similar motion just following the Hon'ble Dr. Sarbadhikari, and I associate myself with the observations that have fallen from him. Further, I want to submit to your Lordship that perhaps Government have recognized that this will be too hard a provision to be enforced at once, and it will put the public into great difficulty. In that view, my Lord, I find that in clause (*1*) of the Bill it is stated that this clause shall not come into force until a date to be appointed in this behalf by the Local Government by notification in the Calcutta Gazette. That shows that, although the whole Act will come into operation as soon as it is passed by this Council, and after it has received the assent of Your Excellency and of the Viceroy, these three clauses will not come into operation until the Local Government further considers the matter and publishes a special notification on the subject. My Lord, these clauses will operate with great hardship on the people, because they will, if the certificate of registration be given with the expression 'legally qualified practitioner, or duly qualified medical practitioner is to be deemed a medical practitioner registered under this Act or any other Medical Act' create great difficulties in the mufassal; for this reason that, in the mufassal, there may be medical practitioners who may not, all of them, be registered under this Act, and then, in various matters, the evidence of medical practitioners is necessary in courts of law, especially in the mufassal, where there are no medical practitioners of great eminence, and the people are content with getting the services of humbler members of the service. If any particular medical man is not registered, there will, I submit, be that indirect tendency on the part of the court, that indirect influence on the court, not to accept the evidence of a medical man because he is not a medical man registered under this Act or any other Medical Act. I submit, therefore, my Lord, that having regard to the object of the Bill, which is simply to set up a register of medical practitioners who are willing to register themselves, I do not think that this Bill should go further as is proposed by the clause under discussion. If it does, it will be felt as a great hardship, especially in distant parts of the mufassal. I would therefore support the motion of the Hon'ble Dr. Deba Prasad Sarbadhikari that this clause be omitted."

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON said:—

"My Lord, I have not been able to gather exactly what the objection to this clause is except that it is unnecessary. I thought the Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur was going to say that the evidence of a doctor would not be accepted in a court unless he was on the register, and I was prepared to jump on him for that statement. However, he turned it round and said that it might indirectly have some effect on the court in believing his evidence if he were not registered. The purpose of the Bill, as has been rightly said, is to set up a register. The purpose of that register is to include all those who hold qualifications which are considered by the State sufficient to enable them to practise on the bodies of the inhabitants

of the State. A schedule has been drawn up of those qualifications which can be registered. All qualifications have been included in the schedule which, Government considers, give a requisite guarantee of efficiency. Surely, when you have a State register including all those whom the State considers are guaranteed efficient, it is only logical, when the State refers to an efficient medical practitioner, a qualified medical practitioner, to suppose that it refers to those men. Until you have a register the expression 'duly qualified practitioner' means practically nothing. It is left to individual pleasure. Once you have a register it surely follows for this reason that 'duly qualified medical practitioner' must mean a man who has got a registered qualification. The Hon'ble Dr. Sarbadhikari seemed to draw a distinction between the qualifications of the man and the qualifications that entitle him to entry in the register. But the qualifications are the training he has received, and the hall-mark of that training is the degree or the license or the diploma. You may call that a qualification, but you cannot separate that from the man. If you take him off the register for any purpose, he does not lose his qualification, but simply becomes disbarred. He still has that training, he is quite possibly as clever a man as he ever was before. I think therefore the Council will agree with me that the State, having set up a settled list of medical practitioners, must confine 'qualified medical practitioners' to men who can go on that list. If a man can go on that list and does not choose to do so, I do not think we can extend any consideration to him. I think it is the duty of every medical practitioner who has registrable qualifications to get them registered.

Then he protests that it will cause a hardship either on individuals or on the public. I have already, in presenting the Select Committee's report to the Council at the last meeting, given a list of the certificates that are required under any Act to be given by a medical practitioner. They are a certificate of leprosy under the Leprosy Act, a certificate for labour under the Assam Labour Act, a certificate of being over 12 years of age under the Indian Factories Act and the Indian Mines Act, a certificate of lunacy under the Lunacy Act, a certificate of vaccination under the Vaccination Act, a certificate of freedom from infection under the Inoculation Act. I have not been able to find any others, and I think the Council will agree that taking away from an unregistered medical practitioner the right to give any of those certificates does not bear in the slightest degree hardly on him or the public. As a matter of fact, with the exception possibly of vaccination, I think I might venture to say that no practitioner who will not come on the register has ever given a certificate under those Acts. The first part of the clause says the expression 'legally qualified medical practitioner or duly qualified medical practitioner shall mean a practitioner registered under the Act.' I think the Hon'ble Dr. Sarbadhikari has rightly pointed out that what the law means by a 'legally or duly qualified medical practitioner' is a man who has sufficient guarantee of efficiency in practice. We, in setting up our register, give the Council power to move the Local Government to bring on to the register any qualification which in their view presupposes the possession of efficient qualifications for the practice of surgery and medicine. Therefore I think it follows that, for the protection of the public, Government are bound to interpret these words in the Act as meaning doctors who are up to the standard that has been considered to have registrable qualifications."

The motion was then put and lost.

The following motions were, by leave of the President, withdrawn :—

List of Amendments—Motion No. 66.—The Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur to move that clause 27 be omitted.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 67.—The Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Faz-ul-Haq to move that clause 27 be omitted.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 68.—The Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Ray to move that the words "or duly qualified medical practitioner", in line 2 of clause 27, be omitted.

Dr. Nilratan Sarkar; Mr. Stephenson.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 69.—The Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Ray to move that the last six lines of clause 27 be omitted.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 70.—The Hon'ble Maulvi Musharraf Husain to move that the following proviso be added at the end of clause 27, namely:—

"Provided that this section shall not apply to any death certificate required to be produced before a Railway officer in the case of the transmission by rail of a dead body from one place to another."

List of Amendments—Motion No. 71.—The Hon'ble Dr. Nilratan Sarkar moved that clause 27A be omitted.

He said :—

"Clause 27A as it stands runs thus :—

'27A. Except with the special sanction of the Local Government, no person other than a registered practitioner shall be competent to hold any appointment as medical officer of health, or as physician, surgeon or other medical officer in any hospital, asylum, infirmary, dispensary or lying-in hospital which is supported partially or entirely by public or local funds.'

I beg to submit that clause 27A, if passed, would lead to great inconvenience to the public and also to great difficulty to the Government. I may be permitted to inform the Council that we conduct our hospitals and schools with the help of our passed students. In fact, we depend entirely upon such help, and cannot do without such help. Then, again, there are many mufassal dispensaries that are stated by our passed students; some of these dispensaries might require help from municipal funds. We, in Belgachia, obtain substantial help every year from the Calcutta Municipality. The enforcement of this clause would be to paralyse this institution at once, apart from the question of throwing out of employment so many men who are already in service. Of course, it would be said that the clause is not going to be enforced just at present; but even then, if it be passed, it would have a great disheartening effect upon our officers, because officers, with blighted prospects, would certainly be discontented, and it would be impossible to conduct our hospitals and schools with the help of discontented officers. The funds at our disposal do not permit us to avail ourselves of men trained in Government institutions or in the Universities. There lies the greatest difficulty. There is another matter. My Lord, *kabiraji* hospitals are likely to spring up in the near future. Already there is a hospital in Calcutta in which there is a *kabiraji* ward, and that hospital receives aid from the local funds—from the municipality. This hospital must forfeit municipal help or give up the *kabiraji* ward at once, because no *kabiraji* qualifications could be registered. Now I may point out that it would have been a far better policy for the Government to follow the British Act, which conferred the privilege of registration on all practitioners who were acting as surgeons on the 1st October, 1858, in the public service, or in the service of any charitable institution, on the production of evidence that there was sufficient ground for permitting such registration."

The Hon'ble Mr. STEPHENSON said :—

"Will the Hon'ble Member give me the reference?"

The Hon'ble Dr. NILRATAN SARKAR said :—

"This is an abstract of the principal laws affecting the medical profession. It is an extract from the Registration Act, which runs thus : 'Persons who,

on or before October 1st, 1858, had appointments as surgeons or assistant surgeons in the Army or Navy or Militia or in the service of the East India Company, or were acting on or before that date as surgeons in the public service or in the service of any charitable institution, are entitled to be registered on the production of evidence to that branch of the Council to which application may be made, that there is sufficient ground for directing such registration to be made'."

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON said :—

"Will you please give me the section of the Act? I did not quite catch it."

The Hon'ble DR. NILRATAN SARKAR said :—

"It is an extract from the Act. It is on the first page of the Medical Directory, section 45.

Now I do not see the wisdom of having such a destructive and exclusive clause in the Bill, and in the circumstances I move that the clause be omitted."

The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR said :—

"My Lord, I have an identical motion covering the same ground. This clause was not in the original Bill, and I believe it has been inserted by a majority of the Select Committee. I do not think it is necessary, considering what the objects of the Bill are. The main objects of the Bill, as has been repeatedly declared in this Council, are to set up a register. Now this clause would prohibit any medical practitioner other than a registered practitioner from holding any appointment as a medical officer in connection with any hospital, dispensary or infirmary which is supported partially or entirely by local funds. If the Calcutta Municipality is contributing a certain sum of money in respect of the homeopathic hospital that has been established in Calcutta, or in connection with the Ayurvedic Hospital connected with the Raja Sew Bux Bogla Hospital on Harrison Road, any medical officer who is now holding an appointment there would not be permitted to hold that appointment unless he is a registered practitioner, but he cannot be, my Lord, a registered practitioner unless he is an allopath, and although we all highly appreciate and value the services of our allopathic doctors, we sometimes, and not infrequently, my Lord, have to seek the advice and assistance of *kabirajas* and homeopaths; and *kabirajas* and homeopaths are not included in this schedule, and therefore none would be entitled to hold an appointment in such a hospital as I have mentioned, except with the special sanction of the Local Government. I do not doubt that the sanction of the Local Government will be withheld except on reasonable grounds, but, my Lord, where is the necessity of having this provision to secure the special sanction of the Local Government? My Lord, I fail to understand why this clause should be allowed to remain in the statute. The objects of the Bill will not be in any way frustrated by the omission of this clause. The impression, rightly or wrongly, has been created in the public mind, especially among the *kabirajas* and homeopaths and the public generally, that the operation of this clause will work unfairly and that the 'practice' of medical practitioners will be affected. I think this apprehension ought to be allayed by the omission of this clause. I have read the proceedings of the Select Committee, but I have not yet been able to gather what particular reason led the Select Committee to insert this clause in the Bill. I do not know, my Lord, whether it has been approved by the Secretary of State when the Bill was first submitted to him, but I submit, my Lord, that this is a provision which saw the light of day after the Bill had been launched by the Select Committee, and has created great apprehension in the minds of the public.

Colonel Harris ; Babu S. N. Banerji ; Mr. Chakravarti.

I earnestly hope that the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill will accept the motion moved by the Hon'ble Dr. Nilratan Sarkar for the omission of the clause."

The Hon'ble COLONEL HARRIS said :—

"My Lord, may I be allowed to say a few words on this motion ? I do not think that there is any provision for excluding any persons who practise homeopathy and who are not on the register. It is not proposed to register persons ; it is proposed to register their qualifications. Following the example in England, there is no reason why any person who practises homeopathy, provided he possesses registrable qualifications should be excluded from the register."

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI said :—

"What about the Kabirajas ?"

The Hon'ble COLONEL HARRIS, continuing, said :—

"There is no definite and clearly laid down standard for Kabirajas, nor is there any for Ayurvedic practitioners. Should they have a definite standard at any future time I should be quite prepared to consider the question of putting them on. We can only consider a definite examination standard. There is no other standard possible. If I myself were to take to practise in homeopathy, I do not think I could be kept out of the register. My qualifications would have to be registered irrespective of the particular line of practice I adopted."

The Hon'ble MR. CHAKRAVARTI said :—

"My Lord, I do hope that the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill wil see his way to omit this clause. I do not think that any legislation should have a retrospective effect. I venture to think that the Medical Department of the Government will be embarrassed in applying this clause and in making this provision effective, because the clause is not with regard to the future but is with regard to the people who already have appointments in the institutions referred to, and the question is as to whether they should be allowed to hold their appointments unless they are registered. The result is that they go out unless they are registered, and unless there is a special sanction obtained from the Local Government. I venture to think that, even with regard to the special Government hospitals in the mufassal it will be extremely difficult to work this clause if it becomes a section in the Act to be passed ; because, apart from the question of hardship which it must entail upon the people who have been in the service without qualifications and who have probably been working for 20 or 25 years, who will suddenly find themselves thrown out of employment on the ground that they have no registrable qualifications according to the Bill which is to be passed. Apart from the question of hardship, the operation of this clause will cause inconvenience to the many institutions which are all of a mixed character and it will entail heavier expenditure. I know that there is nothing in the Bill to prevent a practitioner who wishes to practise homeopathy from coming on the register, but with regard to him, unless he has had a degree from an allopathic institution, he will have no chance at all. Therefore in these circumstances, I sincerely hope and trust that the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill will see his way in not making this clause take retrospective effect, because the moment it comes into operation the present incumbents must go out unless they can satisfy the requirements of this clause."

Babu S. N. Banerji; Colonel Harris; Mr. Stephenson.

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI said:—

"My Lord, I confess I have not been able to follow the Hon'ble Dr. Harris in the observations he has made. He has told us that there would be no objection to put on the register homeopaths."

The Hon'ble COLONEL HARRIS said:—

"My Lord, I said homeopaths having registrable qualifications."

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI, continuing, said:—

"My Lord, that makes all the difference in the world, that is to say, a man may be a fully qualified M.D. of a homeopathic university, but unless he has registrable qualifications mentioned here, which are all allopathic, his name would not be put on the register. The impression which the Hon'ble Dr. Harris's speech left on my mind is quite different. I thought that the measure was catholic and comprehensive, and that as soon as qualified men presented themselves before the Registrar and told the Registrar what their qualifications were, their names would be put on the register. As a matter of fact, no homeopath can be registered, no matter what his qualifications may be, unless he comes within the purview of the registrable qualifications which are mentioned in the schedule. That means practically the exclusion of such persons. You must look the facts straight in the face without any quibbling and without any attempt to look around. Here are gentlemen in Calcutta with distinguished homeopathic or Ayurvedic qualifications but without any allopathic distinctions. They have not the ghost of a chance of being put on the register, and they will therefore be excluded from performing certain duties to which reference was made by the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill. In any case, if they are employed in any charitable hospital maintained by Government, they must go out, or the local board funds will not be paid. My Lord, there is this fact to be borne in mind that at the present moment Government recognizes Ayurvedic degrees. Under what rules and under what standard, guided by what test or code, does the Government confer the title of *Baidyaratna?* There must be some standard. Therefore there is a standard, although Colonel Harris is not acquainted with it. Be that as it may, it is clear that if my friend's amendment is not accepted, there will be many institutions doing highly useful work and supported by local funds and partly by Government funds which will come to a standstill. The funds will be withdrawn and the men connected with them will have to cut off all connection with them. I hope that, in view of these considerations, the amendment will be accepted."

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON said:—

"My Lord, we are not introducing a new principle. The statutory rule at present under the Local Self-Government Act and the Municipal Act is that a local authority or managing committee vested with the control or administration of an institution under class 4, 5 or 6 shall be entitled to appoint their own medical officers, subject to the following condition:—

> that he be a duly qualified man, licensed or certified by a recognized medical school or college, and that his license or diploma is subject to the approval by the Inspector-General of Civil Hospitals.

There is nothing new in this clause; we have had these regulations for years. I may say at once that there is no intention to interfere in any way with the Kabirajas or Hakims. There is no definition of them in the Act. I think that the Government can safely pledge that they do not propose to take any action with regard to the Kabirajas.

As regards Government hospitals and Municipal hospitals and Local Board hospitals, I think it is perfectly right that Government should lay down rules that officers in charge of them should be registered. The Council

will understand what it means. It means that they are possessed of one of the many qualifications which the Government consider suitable to entitle a man to practise medicine. Government cannot go below their standard with regard to the mufassal institutions. The Hon'ble Mover has instanced the case of Belgachia. The point was raised that, if we gave any assistance to Belgachia, this clause would prevent any passed student of Belgachia from being employed in that hospital. To meet the case of possible individual hardship the Select Committee added the first words to the clause, but would urge that if Government gives considerable assistance to a hospital it is right to insist that the officers employed therein have qualifications up to a minimum standard. I would emphasize the fact that this clause is not a new one. It transfers the provision from statutory rules into this particular statute, thereby following the example of Madras, Bombay and England. In this form I do not think that there is anything inequitable or harsh in the clause, and I would maintain it."

The Hon'ble BABU MAHENDRA NATH RAY said :—

"My Lord, I am bound to say that, with regard to what the Hon'ble Member has just now told us, the matter does not seem to be quite so simple as that. Under the District Boards in this province, there are hospitals of various classes and the hospitals of classes of 3 and 4 employ, with the sanction no doubt of the Inspector-General of Civil Hospitals, persons who are qualified now according to the opinion of the present Inspector-General of Civil Hospitals but who no longer would be qualified as soon as this Bill is passed into law. For instance, in the district with which I am concerned, there is, I believe, more than one person who has obtained a diploma from an institution which is under private management—one of these is referred to by my friend the Hon'ble Dr. Sarkar—whom the Inspector-General who is present here considers qualified enough to hold the appointment of medical practitioners carrying a pay of Rs. 35—40. What will be their fate? Under the clause which is now proposed to be inserted, these people will have to go, and no persons holding the qualifications that these people held can be appointed, unless and until the schedule is so expanded as to include men of these qualifications, about which I have very little hope. No doubt the operations of this clause may be postponed to a date fixed by Government. If the clause comes into operation, not only these people but no persons holding similar qualifications can be appointed. The present rule is an elastic rule, and if the Inspector-General thinks that the diploma which the candidate holds is sufficient, there is no objection to his appointment. No such rule will any longer be in force as soon as this Bill is passed into law. That is my difficulty. I do not see how, unless, at any rate, it is proposed not to give any retrospective effect to this clause, this clause could avoid operating with prejudice to a large number of people who are already in employment. This clause, I know, is based upon a section of the Medical Act of 1858, but no similar difficulty was likely to occur in England in view of the special provision which was made long ago and to which my friend Dr. Nilratan Sarkar has referred. Unless you take into account these difficulties, it is not easy to see how one can approve of the clause, at any rate in its entirety, as it stands. It is a matter of considerable difficulty."

The Hon'ble SIR WILLIAM DUKE said :—

"My Lord, the clause is not one which introduces of its own force an entirely new principle. The qualifications which will, in future, be registrable have always been insisted on for public employment, and if exceptions have been made they can only have been very rare. This much, however, I am prepared to say on behalf of Government that the Act will be so applied as not to affect persons who are already in office at the time of its passing. As for future candidates for employment, Government will insist upon the registrable qualifications. It can hardly do less; it can hardly say that it will

sanction persons being employed in institutions supported by public funds who have not the lowest qualifications which its machinery is able to manufacture. The Hon'ble Babu Mahendra Nath Ray has said that at present the matter of employment rests with the Inspector-General, because he hitherto has had no rule to guide himself. In future, he will have a standard of rigid qualifications. What applies to public institutions applies in not quite the same way to the institution on behalf of which Dr. Sarkar was speaking. If the existing incumbents are not touched, I fancy that his objection will disappear. I take it that his intention is that the institution should become registrable and that his best students will have in future registrable qualifications. In view of the guarantee I give on behalf of the Government that it will not interfere with those who are already in employment, the objection will lose much of its force."

The Hon'ble DR. DEBA PRASAD SARBADHIKARI said :—

"My Lord, we are very much obliged to the Hon'ble Sir William Duke for the assurance he has just given, which does away with a considerable portion of the objections that we have to certain aspects of this Bill. But there is, my Lord, a very complex case to which reference may be made; for example, the Bhagwan Das Hospital with which I am connected as a governor. It has two sides. The Kabiraj side must have its medical officer. If the clause goes out as it stands and if the Municipality or the Government even gives it a grant, what will happen is this; because the medical officer of the Kabiraji side of that hospital happens to be and must be a man without registrable qualifications, this hospital will fail in obtaining any aid that it may be entitled to obtain. That is a class of objection that will not be got over by the assurance given by the Hon'ble Sir William Duke."

A division was then taken with the following result :—

Ayes—17	Noes—23.
The Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Ray	The Hon'ble Sir Frederick William Duke, K.C.I.E., C.S.I.
,, ,, Dr. Nilratan Sarkar.	,, ,, Mr. P. C. Lyon, C.S.I.
,, ,, Raja Hrishikesh Laha, C.I.E.	,, ,, Nawab Syed Shams-ul-Huda
,, ,, Maulvi Mazharul Anwar Chaudhuri	,, ,, Mr. J. G. Cumming, C.I.E.
,, ,, Maulvi A. K. Faz ul-Haq.	,, ,, Mr. J. H. Kerr, C.I.E.
,, ,, Babu Surendra Nath Banerji.	,, ,, Mr. H. L. Stephenson, C.I.E.
,, ,, Babu Mahendra Nath Ray.	,, ,, Mr. H. F. Samman.
,, ,, Rai Hari Mohan Chandra Bahadur.	,, ,, Mr. B. B. Newbould.
,, ,, Babu Prasanna Kumar Ray.	,, ,, Mr. H. H. Green.
,, ,, Rai Nalinaksha Basu Bahadur.	,, ,, Lt.-Col. A. C. deL. Joly de Lotbinière, R.E., C.S.I., C.I.E.
,, ,, Dr. Deba Prasad Sarbadhikari, C.I.E.	,, ,, C. J. Stevenson-Moore, C.V.O.
,, ,, Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur.	,, ,, Mr. H. J. Hilary.
,, ,, Babu Upendra Lal Ray.	,, ,, Rai Priya Nath Mukharji Bahadur.
,, ,, Maulvi Musharraf Husain.	,, ,, Mr. C. F. Payne.
,, ,, Mr. Byomkes Chakravarti.	,, ,, Mr. C. H. Bompas.
,, ,, Nawab Saiyid Nawab Ali Chaudhuri, Khan Bahadur.	,, ,, Mr. W. W. Hornell.
,, ,, Maharaja Ranajit Sinha of Nashipur.	,, ,, Mr. F. J. Monahan.
	,, ,, Col. G. F. A. Harris, C.S.I.
	,, ,, Nawab Sir Khwaja Salimullah Bahadur, G.C.I.E., K.C.S.I., of Dacca.
	,, ,, Mr. W. T. Grice.
	,, ,, Mr. G. A. Bayley.
	,, ,, Mr. A. W. C. Chaplin.
	,, ,, Mr. R. Glen.

Mr. Stephenson.

The following Members were absent :—

The Hon'ble Mr. B. C. Mitra.
" " Mr. Golam Hossein Cassim Ariff.
" " Sir Bijay Chand Mahtab, K.C.S.I., K.C.I.E., I.O.M., Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan.
" " Raja Shoshi Kanta Acharyya Chaudhuri Bahadur.
" " Maharaja Jagadindra Nath Ray.
" " Raja Mahendra Ranjan Ray Chaudhuri.
" " Mr. J. G. Apcar.
" " Mr. S. P. Sinha.
" " Mr. Norman McLeod.

The Hon'ble Nawab Saiyid Hossam Haider Chaudhuri, Khan Bahadur, abstained from voting.

The ayes being 17 and the noes 23, the motion was lost.

The following motions were then, by leave of the President, withdrawn :—

List of Amendments—Motion No. 72.—The Hon'ble Dr. Deba Prasad Sarbadhikari to move that clause 27A be omitted.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 73.—The Hon'ble Babu Upendra Lal Ray to move that clause 27A be omitted.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 74.—The Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Ray to move that clause 27A be omitted.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 75.—The Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur to move that clause 27A be omitted.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 76.—The Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Faz-ul-Haq to move that clause 27A be omitted.

Clause 1.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 77.—If motions Nos. 65 and 72 be carried, the Hon'ble Dr. Deba Prasad Sarbadhikari to move that the words "section 27 and section 27A," in line 1 of the proviso to clause 1, be omitted.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 78.—If motions Nos. 66 and 75 be carried, the Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur to move that the words "section 27 and section 27A," in line 1 of the proviso to clause 1, be omitted.

Clause 29.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 78A.—The Hon'ble Mr. Stephenson moved that, at the end of clause 29(*2*)(*a*), the following be added, namely :—

"and to prescribe, for the purposes of the proviso to section 4, the area to be included within Calcutta."

He said :—

"My Lord, there are two classes of practitioners, mufassal and local, and these practitioners are to elect their own men. It seems to me to be necessary that we should define the area of Calcutta in order to prevent

confusion or disputes. We all know what we mean by Calcutta as opposed to the mufassal area, but it is not easy to obtain a handy definition. The one in the Calcutta Municipal Act is some two pages long and omits some important areas in the city. Most other Acts merely refer to the definition in the Calcutta Municipal Act. I think therefore that the simplest plan is to take power for Government to define the Calcutta area by rule."

The motion was put and agreed to.

ADJOURNMENT.

The Council was then adjourned to the next day, Friday, the 3rd April, 1914, at 11 A.M.

A. W WATSON,
Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal in the Legislative Dept. and Secy. to the Bengal Legislative Council.

DARJEELING;
The 2nd May, 1914.

B. S Press—14-5-1914—36J—500—J. L. C.

Abstract of the Proceedings of the Bengal Legislative Council assembled under the provisions of the Indian Councils Acts, 1861, 1892, 1909 and the Government of India Act, 1912.

THE Council met in the Council Chamber at Government House on **Friday**, the 3rd **April**, 1914, at 11 A.M.

Present :

His Excellency the Right Hon'ble THOMAS DAVID, BARON CARMICHAEL OF SKIRLING, G.C.I.E., K.C.M.G., *Governor of the Presidency of Fort William in Bengal, presiding.*

The Hon'ble SIR FREDERICK WILLIAM DUKE, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., *Vice-President.*

The Hon'ble MR. P. C. LYON, C.S.I.

The Hon'ble NAWAB SYED SHAMS-UL-HUDA.

The Hon'ble MR. STEVENSON-MOORE, C.V.O.

The Hon'ble MR. F. J. MONAHAN.

The Hon'ble MR. J. G. CUMMING, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. J. H. KERR, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. H. L. STEPHENSON, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. H. F. SAMMAN.

The Hon'ble MR. H. H. GREEN.

The Hon'ble LT.-COL. A. C. DEL. JOLY DE LOTBINIÈRE, C.S.I., C.I.E.

The Hon'ble Mr. B. B. NEWBOULD.

The Hon'ble MR. C. H. BOMPAS.

The Hon'ble MR. W. W. HORNELL.

The Hon'ble MR. C. F. PAYNE.

The Hon'ble RAI PRIYA NATH MUKHARJI BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble COL. G. F. A. HARRIS, C.S.I.

The Hon'ble MR. H. J. HILARY.

The Hon'ble NAWAB SIR KHWAJA SALIMULLAH BAHADUR, G.C.I.E. K.C.S.I.

The Hon'ble DR. NILRATAN SARKAR.

The Hon'ble RAJA HRISHIKESH LAHA, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. R. GLEN.

The Hon'ble MR. BYOMKES CHAKRAVARTI.

The Hon'ble SIR BIJAY CHAND MAHTAB, K.C.S.I., K.C.I.E., I.O.M., Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan.

The Hon'ble DR. DEBA PRASAD SARBADHIKARI, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble MR. NORMAN MCLEOD.

The Hon'ble MR. W. T. GRICE.

The Hon'ble MR. G. A. BAYLEY.

The Hon'ble MR. A. W. C. CHAPLIN.

The Hon'ble MAULVI MAZHARUL ANWAR CHAUDHURI.

The Hon'ble MAULVI MUSHARRAF HUSAIN.

The Hon'ble MAULVI A. K. FAZ-UL-HAQ.

The Hon'ble NAWAB SAIYID HOSSAM HAIDAR CHAUDHURI, KHA BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble MAHARAJA RANAJIT SINHA, of Nashipur.

The Hon'ble RAI NALINAKSHA BASU BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble NAWAB SAIYID HOSSAM HAIDER CHAUDHURI, KHAN BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble NAWAB SAIYID, NAWAB ALI CHAUDHURI, KHAN BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble BABU PRASANNA KUMAR RAY.

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI.

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH RAY.

The Hon'ble BABU MAHENDRA NATH RAY.

The Hon'ble RAI HARI MOHAN CHANDRA BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble BABU UPENDRA LAL RAY.

THE BENGAL MEDICAL BILL, 1914.

(THE DISCUSSION ON THE BENGAL MEDICAL BILL WAS RESUMED.)

The Schedule.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 79 :—The Hon'ble Mr. Stephenson moved that the words "or qualified to be registered" be inserted after the word "registered" in line 2 of Article 1 to the Schedule.

He said :—

"My Lord, this amendment is practically the same as the next two and it is necessary because in discussing the constitution of the Council the Select Committee thought that it was not necessary to insist upon people who have registrable degrees in England being actually registered there. It was felt that they need not be put to the expense of having their names registered, if they were not going to practice there, and that it was sufficient if their names were on the Register in Bengal."

The motion was put and agreed to.

The following motions were then, by leave of the President, withdrawn :—

List of Amendments—Motion No. 80 :—The Hon'ble Dr. Deba Prasad Sarbadhikari to move that the words "qualified to be," be substituted for the words "for the time being" in line 1 of Article 1 to the Schedule.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 81 :—The Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur to move that the words "qualified to be" be substituted for the words "for the time being" in line 1 of Article 1 to the Schedule.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 82 :—The Hon'ble Mr. Chakravarti to move that the words "qualified to be" be substituted for the words "for the time being" in line 1 of Article 1 to the Schedule.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 83 :—The Hon'ble Dr. Deba Prasad Sarbadhikari moved that at the end of Article 2 to the Schedule the following be added, namely :—

"or of any other University that may hereafter be established in British India."

He said :—

"The Schedule of the Bill rightly provides for degrees of the existing Universities. Other Universities may soon come. Of course, my Lord, under Clause 18 it will be possible for the Council to move in the matter, and for the Local Government to add to the qualification. That procedure might be avoided if the words that I propose be adopted, in the case of Universities that may come hereafter, their degrees may be recognised without any difficulty."

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON said :—

"I don't think it is necessary on our part to legislate in this way for the future. We have made ample provision in the Bill for contingencies like that and, if need be, the Schedule can be altered in the future to apply to bodies that may come into being. The Schedule contains a list of registrable qualifications at the time in force. I think we should stick to that and not complicate the registrable qualifications by legislating for the future."

The Hon'ble DR. DEBA PRASAD SARBADHIKARI said :—

"I am afraid that principle cannot be accepted in its entirety. In the course of some other amendments we would be asking that schools, which might be recognised hereafter, should also have rights like those already in existence. Therefore I think such a provision is necessary."

The motion was then put and lost.

The following motions were then, by leave of the President, withdrawn :—

List of Amendments—Motion No. 84.—The Hon'ble Mr. Chakravarti to move that at the end of Article 2 to the Schedule the following be added, namely :—

"or of any other University that may hereafter be established in British India."

List of Amendments—Motion No. 85.—The Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur to move that at the end of Article 2 to the Schedule the following be added, namely :—

"or of any other University that may hereafter be established in British India."

List of Amendments—Motion No. 86.—The Hon'ble Dr. Nilratan Sarkar moved that the following be added after Article 3 to the Schedule, namely :—

"4. Every person, trained in an existing Medical College or School in India not maintained by the Local Government, who has received such training in Medicine, Surgery and Midwifery as would qualify him, in the opinion of the Council, to be registered under this Act."

He said :—

"My Lord, I seek this concession in favour of the passed students of our schools. Some of these schools have been in existence, under the ægis of the Government, for the last 25 years and have trained a very deserving class of men who are holding their own in the field of medical practice. In the case of the Belgachia Institution they had to go through a regular course of school and hospital training for at least four years and then pass an examination so stiff that out of several hundred candidates who presented themselves during the first 26 years only about 280 passed. Many of these students are now holding responsible posts in our hospitals and schools as well as in dispensaries and business concerns in the mufassal. I submit that if the former students of the Government Medical Schools as well as of the military class of the Calcutta Medical College could be admitted to registration, there is no reason why our passed students should be denied the privilege. It would be said against us perhaps that the equipment of our school is not so good as that in the Government schools. I admit this so far as the present is concerned. But I claim that our equipment, imperfect as it is now and capable of vast improvement, is not worse than what prevailed in some of the best Government schools 15 or even ten years ago. And yet students who passed out of Government schools long before that period are going to be admitted. I may be permitted to point out how imperfect the teaching was in some of these institutions in those days; all important subjects like pathology and physiology, which are the basis of the healing art, were not taught in some of the Government schools. There was no separate chair of chemistry in most of them. Until quite recently as many as three subjects were taught by one teacher in a Government school outside Calcutta—an arrangement which must necessarily detract from the soundness of teaching. Is our school worse equipped than that school or the recently started school at Gauhati where the equipment might still be called elementary? Therefore it would be bare justice to place the qualifications of our students on an equal footing with those of the passed students of some Government schools, because our students had to obtain their certificates after about four years of school and hospital training and after passing through a crucial, written, oral, and practical examination in each subject.

I may be permitted to observe that my proposal is a very moderate one, for the admission of such candidates to registration will depend entirely upon the opinion of the Council. Let the Council form such opinion after careful inspection of our schools along with Government schools and then if they find that our students are at least as deserving as some of those coming out of Government schools there can be no reason for rejecting them.

Dr. Nilratan Sarkar.

When the Medical Act of 1858 was passed, the privilege of registration was granted to some one of the passed students of 22 corporate bodies of all shades and grades of efficiency, the nature of which I beg leave to indicate by some quotation from Parliamentary papers :—The Right Hon'ble Mr. Cowper said in the House of Commons 13th May 1857 : 'The qualifications required were as various as was the area over which those qualifications could be exercised. The College of Physicians and the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge adopted a high standard of qualifications. There were other bodies who took quite a different view of the subject. For instance, the College of St. Andrew in former times had taken a mercantile view of the matter, and not having facilities for personal examination, used to forward their degree by return of post, on receipt of a fee of £ 25, or whatever sum might be agreed upon. This practice had been long discontinued, but it showed the latitude that existed.

'In the whole there were 16 bodies in the United Kingdom, the diplomas of which entitled holders by law or usage to practise, and many incompetent persons received licenses. For the practice of surgery no qualification is required by law, and a man could call himself surgeon without knowing any graver operation then carving a fowl.'

Lord Elcho said in the House of Commons, July 1, 1857 :—

'The fact was that no practical examination in Surgery was required at the College of Surgeons, although cases of hernia, fractures, and cases of that kind which required experience, were the class of cases which generally came before surgeons. What, he asked, were these medical corporations? Why they were merely medical mediaeval guilds, like those of the grocers, shoe-makers, and other municipal institutions, dating from the same time?'

Then again practitioners who obtained the degree of Doctor of Medicine before the 1st of October, 1855, from the Archbishop of Canterbery, certainly not a very high authority in Medicine—were admitted. Among other practitioners persons who on or before the 1st of October, 1858, were acting as surgeons in the public service, or in the service of any charitable institution, were held entitled to be registered on the production of evidence satisfactory to the Branch Council to which application might be made that there was sufficient ground for directing such registration being made. Those belonging to this class were admitted irrespective of any academic qualification or the want of it. In fact the Earl of Carnarvon said in the House of Lords on the 20th of July, 1858 : 'The Bill was not a destructive Bill, because while it removed existing anomalies and evils, it kept alive the 22 Lord Corporate Bodies that now existed in this century.' I do not blame such inclusions, which were required by the circumstances that then prevailed in Great Britain. 'As things then stood,' said the Right Hon'ble Mr. Cowper, 'there were to be found among licensed practitioners men who were incompetent in teaching skill and deficient in intelligence and in an ordinary English education. The reason alleged by the College of Surgeons by way of excusing the fact was that the demand for general practitioners was so great that, if a high standard of competency were fixed as necessary before they could obtain a license, the supply would not be equal to the demand, and the rural districts would be in want of the services of medical men.' (Hansard, May 3, 1857.)

In the light of what I have said, my submission is that Government should not ignore the significance of the circumstances now prevailing in this country.

Some amount of organization has already grown up in the medical profession here, and it is for your Lordship's Government to foster its growth and direct it to its proper destiny. The rejection of the first fruits of the labours of these organizations, which have been encouraged and helped by Government during the last 25 years, is sure to give a rude shock to such organizations and also to the unflinching trust which our people have always reposed in the Government. I hope and trust that your Lordship's Government will kindly extend a helping hand to the independent profession at this juncture."

Babu Mahendra Nath Ray.

The Hon'ble BABU MAHENDRA NATH RAY said :—

"My Lord, as another amendment which runs precisely in similar terms stands in my name. I beg to support the one moved by my friend, the Hon'ble Dr. Nilratan Sarkar. This amendment is at any rate a recognition of the existing state of things, and not a provision for the future. I say so in view of what the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill has just told us, that the object of the Bill is not to make a provision for the future, but to recognize the existing state of things. Now with regard to the third article in the Schedule, a provision is made evidently in view of recognition of similar schools—schools like those referred to by my learned friend the Hon'ble Dr. Sarkar, and article 3 says that every person who has been trained in a medical school recognized by Government, but not maintained by Government, may come within the Schedule. It is perfectly reasonable to expect that Government would recognize by a notification in the manner contemplated in the 3rd article one or the other of the existing schools not maintained by Government, referred to by my learned friend. When that is done, persons who have been trained in such schools would come within the schedule. But we must take note of the fact that these institutions have not yet been recognized by the Government, although they have within the last several years turned out a very large number of those who are following the profession as detailed by my learned friend. The effect of not adding an article like that now proposed by my friend would be to exclude this very large number of persons from registration altogether. Even when these schools are recognized by Government by a notification in the *Calcutta Gazette* in the future, such a recognition would not have a retrospective effect, and it would be contended that before recognition the standard was not up to the mark, and therefore we cannot possibly register those people who were not trained in such schools before recognition. That is a perfectly reasonable view to take, and therefore the amendment proposes that though these institutions have not yet been recognized by the Government, if in the opinion of the Council these people have received instructions qualifying for registration, they should be registered. The amendment seems to be perfectly harmless from that point of view, and it seems to me recognizes a very large number of professional men who have got their training from these schools, recognizes them for the purpose of registration. When the Act of 1858 was passed in England, no doubt the schedule of the Act, which was a pretty long one, recognized institutions which had already power under the law to grant licenses to practise. In that respect I am afraid there can be no analogy, strictly speaking, between what was done in England under the English Act and what is proposed to be done by the proposed amendment. But this difference is not material, seeing that the condition and state of things in this country are so different. There, in the United Kingdom, were already in existence a very large number of Colleges of Physicians and Surgeons and Apothecary's Halls, in addition to the Universities which were recognized by Royal grant as competent to confer qualifying distinction. In this country we have in existence a number of very useful institutions not yet recognized by Government, but serving a very very useful purpose. Is it desirable that a body of men—a very large body of men—who had received training in those institutions should be hopelessly debarred for all future time to come from the right of getting their names registered? Of course it is very easy to say that the people who could not get their names registered would not suffer much. We have already adopted a number of clauses which show that the privilege of registration is a very high privilege, and I am not going to elaborate on this point. An unregistered person may continue to carry on his profession, but he must do so under a very considerable disadvantage. Is it right that people who are not subjected to any disadvantages now should be subjected to disadvantages in the future for no fault of their own? Of course it is not for me to compare the amount of education and training of a student brought up by a training in these schools. My friend, the doctor, is quite competent to speak on the matter. But there is, my Lord, ample safeguards provided by the amendment itself. If the Council consider that

the training that these students have received is not ample and sufficient to qualify for registration, then there is an end of the matter. I hope, my Lord, therefore that this amendment, which is a very useful one and which is from the Government point of view quite harmless, will be accepted by the Council."

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON said :—

"The amendment proposed is that every person trained in an existing Medical College or School in India not maintained by the Local Government who has received such training in medicine, surgery, and midwifery as would qualify him, in the opinion of the Council, to be registered under this Act, should be eligible.

"The Hon'ble Babu Mahendra Nath Ray has already disposed of any arguments from the analogy of the British Act. I therefore need not discuss the Hon'ble Dr. Nilratan Sarkar's argument on that head. I entirely agree with the Hon'ble Babu Mahendra Nath Ray that there is no analogy, and no argument can be based on it at all. We are asked for this concession, and the main ground brought forward for this and the subsequent amendments is that there are in existence certain institutions which serve a useful purpose, and have passed out a considerable number of students who are now holding appointments in mufussal dispensaries. As regards that, I may mention with reference to the amendment we had yesterday, that I have been informed since yesterday that there not is one single medical officer in Government or district board, or municipal dispensaries who has not come from a recognized school. The object of the amendment is to get these passed students on to the register. In the first place, I wish to avoid the very thorny subject of comparisons. I do not propose to undertake the invidious task of criticising any of these existing institutions, but I think it is fair to say that the register is a register of qualified medical practitioners. It is not sufficient therefore to say that other institutions are useful and turning out students who are doing work of the kind which is useful in Bengal. In order to establish a claim for them to go on to the register it must be proved, not only that they are useful, but that they are the compeers of the men who will come on the register. Though they are doing useful work, if they are not of the same standard as those who will come on the register they have no real claim.

"Taking the wording of the amendment, it leaves it to the opinion of the Council to say whether an individual has received such training in medicine, surgery or midwifery as would qualify him to be registered under the Act. There is no standard set out in the amendment. I take it the standard meant is the standard of other qualifications which are included in the schedule, therefore the Council, before they can do anything under this amendment, must be satisfied that this individual has received a training which is comparable to the training received by the possessors of the qualifications mentioned in the schedule. Well, at the outset I think I can say that had Government considered that any of these schools give such a training as is comparable with, and equivalent to, the training required by the qualifications mentioned in the schedule, that school or those schools would have been mentioned in the schedule. The Council cannot trace back the history of an individual's training. They cannot go backwards and see what actual training he has had during his four or five years' course. They can only accept the actual training given to all those who have been educated in the same institution, that is to say, the training given by the institution, and not the training given to the individual. Therefore the Council will have to be satisfied in the case of the institutions from which these individuals come—in the wording of clause 18, that the title granted by any University, Medical Corporation, examining body, or other institution is a sufficient guarantee that persons possessing such title or qualification possess the knowledge and skill requisite for the efficient practice of medicine, surgery, and midwifery.

"Again, I say that had Government been convinced that this was a fact, these institutions would have been included in the schedule. If the Council in future is convinced that this is a fact, they will be included in the

schedule. But until the Council is convinced that the training is sufficient in any given institution, I cannot agree to bring them directly on to the register. The amendment, I take it, is really for the benefit of individuals, and it is not directly claimed that all those who are trained in the school shall be recognized, that is provided for under clause 18. This provides for the inclusion of every person trained. The scope of the Bill is not to test individuals. We set up a register of persons possessing qualifications, and we include in the schedule all those qualifications which Government at the present moment consider are a sufficient guarantee of the possession of a skill which is safe for the public. The basis of the registration is not personal—it is the qualifications. The Council will have no right to exclude persons holding these qualifications from the register on the ground that they do not think that after all, though he has got qualifications, he is really skilful; in the same way they have no right to include in the schedule a person who has not got these qualifications, on the ground that they think that nevertheless he is a good doctor. They can register only qualified men. Qualifications are based upon training. In the medical profession, perhaps more than in any other profession, examinations are not sufficient. A student must go through a long and careful course of hospital work, as well as the theoretical training, and it is on combining these two together that his skill and efficiency to practise hereafter must depend. It is not merely book learning. Book learning by itself might enable him to pass examinations, but it is not a sufficient guarantee that he is a good and careful doctor. We must know that he has had a long training, a clinical training, and that the institution where he has had this training is fully and sufficiently equipped with a hospital, with class-rooms, and equipment generally to give him the necessary training. No amount of book learning can adequately make up for inefficiency of training. The Council, therefore, is not in a position to judge of these individuals. It would not be fair to set them up as a judge of an individual's skill, and it would be going contrary to the whole principle of the Bill, if we were to try to inflict this duty upon them. Further, I maintain that it would be wrong to place an individual on the register who has not got a qualification which can be pointed to. To do this would be to lower the register. It would inflict an injury upon every medical man whose name is on that register. The register is a register of certain fixed qualifications. If you include any in it who have not got those qualifications you would give opportunities to the enemy to blaspheme. You would make the other provinces say, 'this register in Bengal is worth nothing.' It is based on no sound principle. At the same time I recognise that there will be hardship to individuals. There are undoubtedly cases where there will be hardship if individuals are not allowed to come on the register. Such cases of hardship must arise in every act of legislature of this nature. Whenever you start a new system, there must be some hard cases. But the proper way to meet these hard cases is not by lowering the register by putting on the register people who are not entitled under the Bill to come on to it, who have not got the qualifications which the register is supposed to be the hall mark of, but to give facilities, as far as can be done, to those individuals to obtain a registrable degree, and to come on the register by virtue of their own merits, and not merely by grace of concession. This is the way that Government will endeavour to meet these individual cases of hardship. There are proposals before Government that as soon as the Bill is passed a State-examining body shall be set up which shall grant licenses which it is expected the Medical Registration Council will recognize. In drawing up the rules of that examining body, Government will make every endeavour to provide for those cases of individual hardship, and give these individuals an opportunity of obtaining the qualifications to be given by this State body, and thereby come on to the register as of right. I think that is the proper way of dealing with the hardship, and I think that it will place individuals in a very much stronger and better position than if they were passed through by mere grace of concession. I, therefore, oppose this and all

the other amendments, but can say that Government will, as far as in them lies, do their best to provide a way for these individuals to obtain a registrable qualification of their own."

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI said :—

"The gist of the argument of my hon'ble friend, who has just spoken, seems to be that if these amendments were accepted there would be a lowering of the standard. I venture to submit that in any case there would be a lowering of the standard, whether you accept this amendment or not. Take a concrete case, because the best thing in an argument like this is to deal with an abstract proposition by the test of concrete examples. A Campbell Medical School student who has graduated say 25 years back will be entitled, as a matter of right, to have his name entered on the register. The newest member of the Indian Medical Service, who comes out with flying colours, with all the academic distinctions that he has gained in England, will also be entitled to have his name entered in the register. Therefore, side by side on the same register we have this antiquated graduate of the Campbell Medical School, whose knowledge is not up to date, and a distinguished alumnus of an English university. Is that fair? Is not that lowering the standard? I put that question to my hon'ble friend opposite. Under the Bill as it has been passed, or will be passed by the Council, there is that inevitable lowering of the standard which you cannot help. Therefore, why do you raise a difficulty in this case? That is the first point which I take. The Bill, such as it is, necessarily involves the inclusion in the register of persons whose qualifications vary in many ways, from the best men to the men who are the very reverse of being the best. Then, my Lord, my friend has often referred to the English Act. My friend to my left has pointed out that in this matter the English practice is different. It was bound to be different, for the reason that in England most of these institutions were chartered: most of them had received Royal charters, and had been recognized. In our case that is not so; but I claim that when we cannot follow the English Act in its details, we ought, as far as practicable, to adopt the principles of the English Act. That principle has been laid before the Council in a very luminous way by my friend the Hon'ble Dr. Sarkar. That principle, stated in brief is this—inclusion, not exclusion, comprehension, not destruction. From the backward graduate of St. Andrews, who could not perhaps perform a simple operation, to the graduate of the College of Surgeons and Physicians, all were admitted, when the Act was first passed, on the register. Therefore the English Act adopted the principle of including in the register persons of very divergent qualifications, and which prevail there I venture to submit that we should do the same thing. My friend has held out a sop to us that there will be no difficulties at all so far as individuals are concerned, because there will be an examination, and if there are difficulties, then those difficulties could be avoided by the test of an examination which might be held afterwards. I want to put this question seriously to the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill. Take the case of a man say of 50 years of age, tottering on the verge of the grave—does my hon'ble friend really expect that he will come forward and submit to the test of an examination? It may be possible in England, under those favourable climatic conditions which prevail there; but it is absolutely hopeless here."

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON said :—

"May I ask my hon'ble friend to let me know from which of the unrecognized schools this dodderer of 50 years comes? The oldest of the unrecognized schools was started in 1887."

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI, continuing, said :—

"I quite accept that fact. I will meet my friend on his own ground. Of the recognized schools, the oldest would be in 1887. The oldest student in that school would have been a graduate in 1890. This is the year of grace 1914, which means he has passed out of that school 24 years. Well he must have been about 24 or 25 years of age, when he passed out of it,

and now he will be about 50. Was I very wrong when I said that a man of 50. tottering on the verge of the grave, would have to pass an examination under the circumstances that were required? I think my hon'ble friend's argument will not stand the test of scrutiny. The comfort, the consolation that he held out before us will not appease public feeling in this matter. I think, my Lord, in this matter we ought to follow the principle of the English Act. viz., that we should include as far as practicable students of the institutions which are now doing such admirable work. My Lord, we have often heard that the Government are anxious to encourage private enterprise in the matter of medical education. The acceptance of this amendment will be a substantial proof on the part of Government of their anxiety to encourage private enterprise in medical education. Then, my Lord, I put this question to my hon'ble friend. Is it not a matter of justice, fair, common justice, that the students of these institutions, of institutions like the Belgachia School, should be placed on the register when students of antiquated schools like the old Campbell Medical Hospital will necessarily find their way on to that register. A graduate of the Belgachia School coming out this year, in point of medical education, will be at least on a par with the graduate of the Campbell Medical School who passed out, say, 30 years back. The latter will get into the register without a word of protest by virtue of his right. Is it right and proper that the up-to-date graduate of the Belgachia School should be excluded for no other reason than because he has not got marked on his brow the impress of a Government institution? I think, my Lord, this is not fair. I put the case upon the high ground of justice, apart from all considerations of policy and expediency, all considerations of that kind. I put the case upon this ground. Is it fair to exclude the graduate of the Belgachia School who, in point of medical education, is fully equal to the obsolete graduate of the Campbell Medical School who passed out 30 years ago, and is it fair to exclude the graduate of the Belgachia College and include a graduate of the Campbell Medical School? I speak to this assembly of English gentlemen, and I ask them to say whether this is fair; and if it is not, I am entitled to a vote in favour of these amendments.

My Lord, I do not know that I should be justified in detaining the Council much longer, but there is one point to which I desire to refer. The fact cannot be disguised that this Bill has created a considerable amount of agitation, controversy, and uneasiness in the public mind. If you want this law to be administered smoothly, properly and efficiently, the co-operation of the public is indispensable. This amendment is a crucial matter. Let me say this with all the emphasis I can command. We have many amendments; they have been set aside, but I will say this without fear of contradiction, without fear of challenge, that this amendment which my hon'ble friend has moved, is a crucial amendment, and the Bill will be judged by it. If you reject this amendment, I am perfectly certain that the feeling of the Indian community will be arrayed against this measure, and I ask from the point of view of administrative expediency whether it is wise, whether it is expedient to launch a Bill, which has arrayed against it the sentiment, the voice of the entire community? It is unfair to the candidates who are not the students of Government colleges, and I say their exclusion would alienate the sympathies of the educated community, and that would interfere with the smooth and efficient working of the Act. For all these reasons I hope and trust that my hon'ble friend and the Government will reconsider their attitude, accept these amendments, make it possible for this Bill to be launched into operation under conditions which will ensure it success. It is a new experiment you are trying, and you want the help, and the co-operation of the people. You will not get it unless you accept this amendment."

The Hon'ble DR. NILRATAN SARKAR said :—

"My Lord, we have reason to be grateful to the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill for even the very small concession which he is prepared

to make, but justice demands that if an examination is to be held for our students before admitting them to registration, should also the same test be applied to the former students of Government schools? The only common standard I find in these schools, at least so far as Article 3 of the schedule is concerned, is that all of them are conducted by Government. There is no fixed standard, no uniform standard. The Hon'ble Member in charge has repeatedly asked for a standard in the amendments that I moved. I confess that there is no high standard in our schools, but the British Act had to be satisfied with something like the same state of things in connection with this matter when they admitted many persons, who, before the 1st October, were acting as surgeons in the public service, or were in the service of charitable institutions. These men were held entitled to be registered on the production of evidence, satisfactory to the branch of the Council to which application had to be made, that there was sufficient ground for directing such registration to be made. Thus no definite standard was fixed. All that was said was that if, in the opinion of the Council, certain officers were found eligible, they would be registered. Now, my amendment also proposes that, and nothing more than that. In a matter like that, something must be left to depend upon the opinion of the Council, and that is what we seek, and nothing more than that. Now, we have no objection to the test of a further examination being applied to the case of our students, but with what grace could the Government apply that test to our students when they are going to admit wholesale all their students who passed out 30 years ago, and who passed out 20 years ago,—who passed out at a time when there was practically no standard in many of the Government schools and when the preliminary standard was much lower than what it is to-day even in our schools? This is my difficulty: I do not understand this. I hope that the Government will kindly reconsider the situation. The units are there, my Lord; they are quite prepared to co-operate with the Government. It is only for the Government to make a small concession to institutions which are striving after progress and nothing else; and which are trying to co-operate with the Government in this matter. There are, as I said, over 56,000 people who make a living out of the healing art, and only a few thousands in all can claim to possess any Government qualifications. There is a necessity for the supply of another 53,000, and in this matter the resources of Government are not very large. The Government will have to depend upon public co-operation,—upon the co-operation of the independent practitioners. They are quite prepared to co-operate with the Government in this matter, but their labours must be recognized, and the first fruits of their labours should not be rejected in this summary way. This is all I have to say."

A division was then taken with the following result :—

Ayes—16.

The Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Ray
" " Dr. Nilratan Sarkar.
" " Raja Hrishikesh Laha, C.I.E.
" " Maulvi Mazharul Anwar Chaudhuri.
" " Babu Surendra Nath Banerji.
" " Babu Mahendra Nath Ray.
" " Rai Hari Mohan Chandra Bahadur.
" " Babu Prasanna Kumar Ray.
" " Rai Nalinaksha Basu Bahadur.
" " Dr. Deba Prasad Sarbadhikari, C.I.E.
" " Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur.
" " Babu Upendra Lal Ray.
" " Sir Bijay Chand Mahtab, K.C.S.I., K.C.I.E., I.O.M., Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan.
" " Mr. Byomkes Chakravarti.
" " Nawab Saiyid, Nawab Ali Chaudhuri, Khan Bahadur.
" " Maharaja Ranajit Sinha of Nashipur.

Noes—24.

The Hon'ble Sir Frederick William Duke, K.C.I.E., C.S.I.
" " Mr. P. C. Lyon, C.S.I.
" " Nawab Syed Shams-ul-Huda.
" " Mr. J. G. Cumming, C.I.E.
" " Mr. J. H. Kerr, C.I.E.
" " Mr. H. L. Stephenson, C.I.E.
" " Mr. H. F. Summan.
" " Mr. B. B. Newbould.
" " Mr. H. H. Green.
" " Lt.-Col. A. C. DeL. Joly De Lotbinière, C.S.I., C.I.E.
" " Mr. C. J. Stevenson-Moore, C.V.O.
" " Mr. H. J. Hilary.
" " Rai Priya Nath Mukharji Bahadur.
" " Mr. C. F. Payne.
" " Mr. C. H. Bompas.
" " Mr. W. W. Hornell.
" " Mr. F. J. Monahan.
" " Colonel G. F. A. Harris, C.S.I.
" " Nawab Sir Khwaja Salimullah Bahadur, G.C.I.E., K.C.S.I.
" " Mr. W. T. Grice.
" " Mr. G. A. Bayley.
" " Mr. A. W. C. Chaplin.
" " Mr. R. Glen.

The following members were absent :—

The Hon'ble Mr. B. C. Mitra.
" " Mr. Golam Hossein Cassim Ariff.
" " Maulvi A. K. Faz-ul-Haq.
" " Raja Shoshi Kanta Acharyya Chaudhuri Bahadur.
" " Maharaja Jagadindra Nath Ray.
" " Raja Mahendra Ranjan Ray Chaudhuri.
" " Mr. J. G. Apcar.
" " Mr. S. P. Sinha.

The following members abstained from voting—

The Hon'ble Nawab Saiyid Hossam Haider Chaudhuri, Khan Bahadur.
" " Maulvi Musharraf Hussain.

The Ayes being 16 and the Noes 24, the motion was lost.

The following motion was then, by leave of the President withdrawn :—

List of Amendments—Motion No. 87.—The Hon'ble Babu Mahendra Nath Ray to move that the following be added after Article 3 to the Schedule, namely :—

"4. Every person, trained in an existing Medical College or School in India not maintained by the Local Government, who has received such training in Medicine, Surgery and Midwifery as would qualify him, in the opinion of the Council, to be registered under this Act."

List of Amendments—Motion No. 88.—The Hon'ble Mr. Chakravarti moved that the following be added after Article 3 to the Schedule, namely :—

"4. Every person who has been trained in an existing Medical College or School in India not maintained by the Local Government, but capable, in the opinion of the Council, of imparting such training in Medicine, Surgery and Midwifery as would qualify such person to be registered under this Act."

He said :—

"My Lord, it seems to me that there is a considerable amount of misapprehension on the part of the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill. His grievance is that the standard will be lowered. The question is not that there is a desire on our part to lower the standard below the minimum which is accepted for the purpose of registration, because it is idle to say that everyone who is going to be included in the register has got the same qualification. It is not so. I presume that my hon'ble friend, the head of the Medical Department, has a very high degree. I cannot conceive that a young student who has passed out of the Medical College and if my friend had been a professor there, he would have received his training under him—that he would be just as qualified as the head of the Medical Department after something like 30 years' experience. Therefore it is idle to suggest that the qualification of every man whose name will be on the register will be the same. All that you can provide is that there must be a minimum qualification. With regard to what the minimum qualification should be—I do not know anything about medicine—I generally try to avoid a doctor, if I can—I understand from those competent to express an opinion that if a man is sufficiently educated in medicine, midwifery and surgery and had a practical training afforded by the institution, and not a man who has not studied anatomy, physiology and who has not done microscopic work which is so very essential in medical education—that he should come on the register. What I do complain against is the taking of the high and mighty attitude with regard to the hall-mark of registration and that it would be lowering the qualifications of the persons entitled to be registered, if you include any students educated in any of the private institutions. I protest against it. By all means, either by inspection or examination, insist upon a proper training by them so far as the lectures are

Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur.

concerned and also with regard to the practical work. If they are not fit to be recognized, insist upon that being done. Unless the object is to exclude every institution which has not the good fortune of Government assistance and which is to be therefore tabooed. I don't see why if in regard to Belgachia institution as being considered as an institution affording a fair amount of education in medicine, midwifery and surgery which will qualify a particular student so trained to be registered that it should be excluded simply because it happens to be an institution which is conducted not under Government auspices and which is not maintained by Government funds. That exactly is one of the grievances felt by the people. You don't co-operate with regard to matters of public importance. We want doctors. I will appeal to the head of the Medical Department to say, if it is not a well known fact with regard to the admission to the Medical College, that there are applications from 500 students when you have room only for 125 students? We want doctors, great ones, but not as expensive as the Head of the Department. I know what his fees are; the villagers cannot afford that fee; we want some sort of medical relief and help. Some 10 or 12 years ago two or three private institutions came into existence. From all accounts and reports we understand that they are doing excellent work, and when the occasion arises all that we suggest is that they should be left to the discretion of the Council to be recognised or not. Surely when we ask that the Council should in its discretion recognize the institution according as the Council finds as to whether the qualification of the candidate is up to the standard which, according to the opinion of the Council, should secure them the right to be registered, then what is the harm? Why should there be any difficulty? But the suggestion is that we will get rid of that hardship by having a Board of Examiners who will examine them. But why should a man who has been already examined, unless you condemn that the whole training is a farce and is worth nothing, be again examined by the Board? The suggestion that is made with regard to the Belgachia institution that the training given there is a farce is quite untrue.

The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR said :—

"The motion which stands in my name is exactly the same as moved by my friend, the Hon'ble Mr. Chakravarti. My Lord, after a long discussion on the Bill what I have gathered is that the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill is not prepared to accept anything that militates against the principles laid down in the Bill. The principle of the Bill, as far as I have been able to gather from the discussion of yesterday and to-day, is to set up a register. In this schedule there are given certain institutions and universities which are recognized by the Government and also those which may be recognized by Government hereafter. To this schedule it is intended to make this further addition, namely, that every person who had been trained in an existing medical school in India, not maintained by the Local Government, but in the opinion of the Council capable of imparting such a training in medicine, surgery and midwifery as would qualify such a person to be recognized under this Act. Such persons will be deemed to have registrable qualification. My Lord, here in this case, the school must, in the opinion of the Council, be deemed to be capable of imparting such a qualification. The school must be first of all approved by the Council as a suitable institution which is capable of imparting such a training, and, if a person trained in that school comes with a credential from the institution, it will be entitling him to be registered. I don't think there is any objection to the inclusion of the amendment or rather to the addition which is suggested in this amendment. I only hope that, having regard to the strong feeling created by the apprehended exclusion of some of the institutions which have been working in a spirit of co-operation, although independently, with the Government this amendment will be accepted. The Council will have ample opportunity and power to judge of the capacity of the institution to grant such a degree or diploma to the alumni of the school. If the Council approved of the

capacity of the institution, then the students of such an institution will have a right to register their names, and not otherwise. There are ample safeguards, and I say again that I hope, having regard to the public feelings aroused in the matter, this Council will accept the amendment."

The Hon'ble DR. DEBA PRASAD SARBADHIKARI said :—

"My Lord, as has been pointed out, the amendment of the Hon'ble Mr. Chakravarti and those of the Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur and myself occupy a somewhat different position from that moved by the Hon'ble Dr. Nilratan Sircar. I quite see the difficulty of the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill, who is unable to trace the academic history, if it can be called, of the students trained in different unauthorized schools. For that reason and fully appreciating that difficulty, we thought that an amendment of the kind that we have given notice of, might be more acceptable to the Government. My Lord, it is no secret that there is one institution at all events, the Belgachia institution, which is not recognized by Government officially, but is recognized enough to entitle it to help and support. Negotiations that would see fruition of the full measure of that help and support are pending and are soon expected to be completed. An institution constituted like that, which has done useful and admirable work, as the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill has put it—work I must say now in no way inferior to the standard observed in the Government recognized schools,—it is a matter for regret that a school like that should be left out of consideration. We therefore say that, if the Council is satisfied that the school is worthy of recognition, the law should be so framed as to include the students passed out of that institution in former years. I feel, my Lord, that there is a difficulty in the way of the Council exercising the function in the way we contemplate in the amendment. Whether the examining body, which is announced by the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill, will be one entirely free from objection or not is what we cannot say without knowing more about it. That will depend upon the details of the scheme. Probably Government will frame rules that will make away with the objections. Where, however, is the objection to the Government themselves granting recognition to any non-Government school in the same way as it would have to grant recognition to their new schools? If a new school is to be started in Hooghly or Burdwan, the Government will have to exercise the recognizing power, as they have done in the case of schools at Gauhati, Cuttack and Dacca. We invite the Government to recognize the Belgachia School and when they have done that, there should be no objection at all to their old students also being recognised. That is the way we are trying to put the amendment before the Council and to point out that a very deserving body of practitioners and students are left out of the scope of the Bill. In order to get rid of that difficulty we are moving this specially reasonable amendment, which I hope will meet with the approval of the Government."

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI said :—

"My Lord, I am sure that the Government must strongly sympathize with the efforts made by my friend Dr. Nilratan Sircar and the admirable Board of Directors, who are associated with the Belgachia School. I am perfectly certain that it is an institution which commands the sympathy of the Government, and I hope that the day will come when that sympathy will be shown in some practical form. But there are medical schools, and Government cannot recognize all of them. We recognise that fact, but I think that difficulty can be got over by the terms of the amendment, because the matter is left to the opinion of the Council. Whether the students of any particular institution are to be enrolled or not will depend upon the discretion of the Council. That I think ought to satisfy the Council. The discretion is given to the Council, the trustees of the Government, in which there is an official majority. That being so, this amendment ought to be accepted by the Government.

Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan; Mr. Norman McLeod; Sir William Duke.

We know very well the sympathy of the Government for the Belgachia School. I beg that this sympathy may be shown by the acceptance of this amendment."

The Hon'ble MAHARAJADHIRAJA BAHADUR OF BURDWAN said :—

"My Lord, the principal reason that we are pressing this amendment is that an institution like the Belgachia institution will be left out if the Bill, as it stands, is passed. I understand that the Government have sympathy towards this institution. I therefore think that either some kind of provision which will enable this institution to be affiliated through the operation of this Bill should be put in. Perhaps if, after the words 'in the opinion of the Council', in my friend Dr. Sarkar's amendment, some such words as 'and with the sanction of the Government,' are added, it may meet with the approval of the Government. I think that such an amendment might be put forward by the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill and it would be, I am sure, accepted by all of us. I do not know the position of the Government, but I cannot help expressing my sympathy towards the Belgachia institution, regarding which the Hon'ble Dr. Nilratan Sircar has made out a strong case."

The Hon'ble MR. NORMAN McLEOD said :—

"My Lord, I have not any very great experience as to medical schools, but I can at any rate pretend to acquire the experience of most of the members who have spoken. I have every sympathy with schools such as that presided over by the Hon'ble Dr. Nilratan Sircar, and I think every endeavour should be made to recognize good schools, though I deprecate the inclusion of medical factories or their graduates. I cannot agree with the dictum laid down by my friend, the Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Banerji, that a man at 50 is looking to the grave; otherwise we would have lost long ago his valuable services (laughter). If a man of 50, with 25 years' experience, cannot pass the standard of the Campbell Medical School, then he is not worthy of being a doctor. If, however, he wants to be registered and is keen on his profession, he can find means of so doing, but, in any case, it is to be hoped that those schools, one of which I have already mentioned, should take steps to attain the standard necessary for imparting knowledge and thus avoid any question of difficulty in the way of registration of their graduates."

The Hon'ble SIR WILLIAM DUKE said :—

"We have reason to be grateful to the Hon'ble Dr. Deba Prasad Sarbadhikari and the Members who followed him for having cleared the air by showing exactly what they have in mind. We might have gone on for a long time with intellectual gymnastics without ever being able to draw a line regarding which we should be sure as to who were inside and who were outside it. The sort of argument that in fairness all should be treated alike leads to nothing, because you cannot have equality given to everybody who makes a pretence of medical practice. My Lord, we cannot but take a reasonably high standard, although our principle is a principle of inclusion and not of exclusion. I do not suppose anyone can mean that he wants to include everybody who, with or without justification, practices medicine. What we want to do is to include those who have some kind of training considered sufficient to qualify them for practising, and not persons who have no such pretension at all. But the amendment goes further, and I am afraid that Government cannot accept it in its present form as it throws on the Medical Council a duty which cannot properly be thrown on any body of persons trained to scientific standards. The school which most of the Hon'ble Members spoke of as doing honest work and turning out students capable of practising medicine, etc., is the Belgachia School. As advised, Government have

not yet been able to recognize that school. If they had been able to recognize it the school would have already found a place in the schedule. We hope it will be possible in future to recognize this and other similar schools under clause 18 of the Bill. Once they are recognized, there is, of course, no further difficulty. But so far as Government are concerned, we are not prepared to admit that that school or any private school in Bengal has hitherto been fit for recognition. What the amendment practically wants the Medical Council to do is to register, as an act of grace, all previous students who had passed out before the school is recognized as fit to give the necessary instruction. That is not a logical position to take for a body of professional men. You cannot expect them to say that because the school has become fit to pass out students in the year 1915 therefore we are prepared to register the pupils who passed out of it in 1905. That is a thing we should not ask for. In such matters a Council of scientific persons must be governed by logic and by law, but it is open to Government to try to arrange compromises which may meet difficult cases. The Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill has pointed out that under clause 18 of the Bill the Council may accept the certificate of a medical corporation or examining body as to the qualifications of a candidate for registration. Now it is the intention of Government to appoint a Government Medical Faculty which will examine the pupils of Government and other medical schools recognized as having attained the required standard and will grant them a license which the Council will no doubt be able to accept We fully recognize that this Bill should be on the side of inclusion, and Government will be prepared to meet the cases of passed students who have had a reasonable degree of training by giving them an opportunity of appearing at the examinations of the Medical Faculty for a certain period after the commencement of the Act. That is to say, an opportunity which will last for one or two years or something of that sort. It will not last for ever: there is no reason why it should, but the opportunity will be given. I may say that practically there is no question in our minds but that we will be able to give such an opportunity to those men who have been passed probably at any time, and certainly during recent years, out of Belgachia. The Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Banerji has argued that that is a poor concession to his moribund practitioner of 50. Well, as I have said, it is impossible to meet every case, but probably the man of 50 who has been practising here for the last 20 or 30 years will not be much affected by the question whether he can or cannot get on the register. He is not likely to find out before the second foot descends into the grave, whether any difference will be made to his practice by the absence of registration, but when it comes to practical politics, and when we have to deal with men who have passed out for the last 10 or 15 years, then the Government will consider their position as trained men; and if an opportunity is given to these men, to appear at examination for a license probably as much will be done in that respect as is practically possible. Well, as Government have not been able to accept this amendment or any amendment of the same kind, I hope it will be understood that the people who have really a fair case for it will be given that opportunity. If it is frankly admitted that they are unable to pass even the very lowest kind of examination which may be prescribed for a license, then I am afraid it is impossible for the Government or anybody else to help them; but when a man who claims to have received a degree of training which approximates to what is now thought to be necessary, is found able to pass the examination for a license, I think Government will accept as a matter of grace, though not of logic, that he is qualified for registration.

The Hon'ble MR. CHAKRAVARTI said :—

"I have listened with great attention to what has been said by the Hon'ble Sir William Duke, and although I cannot agree with the Hon'ble Member's remarks with regard to his idea of practical politics, I find that it will serve no useful purpose, especially after what little hope he has given us, to press this amendment. Therefore I withdraw it."

The motion was then, by leave of the President, withdrawn.

The following motions were also, by leave of the President, withdrawn :—

List of Amendments—Motion No. 89.—The Hon'ble Babu Upendra Lal Ray to move that the following be added after Article 3 to the Schedule, namely :—

"4. Every person who has been trained in an existing Medical College or School in India not maintained by the Local Government, but capable, in the opinion of the Council, of imparting such training in Medicine, Surgery and Midwifery as would qualify such person to be registered under this Act."

List of Amendments—Motion No. 90.—The Hon'ble Dr. Deba Prasad Sarbadhikari to move that the following be added after Article 3 to the Schedule, namely :—

"4. Every person who has been trained in an existing Medical College or School in India not maintained by the Local Government, but capable, in the opinion of the Council, of imparting such training in Medicine, Surgery and Midwifery as would qualify such person to be registered under this Act."

List of Amendments—Motion No. 91.—The Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur to move that the following be added after Article 3 to the Schedule, namely :—

"4. Every person who has been trained in an existing Medical College or School in India not maintained by the Local Government, but capable, in the opinion of the Council, of imparting such training in Medicine, Surgery and Midwifery as would qualify such person to be registered under this Act."

List of Amendments—Motion No. 92.—The Hon'ble Rai Nalinaksha Basu Bahadur moved that the following be added after Article 3 to the Schedule, namely :—

"4. Every person who—

(*i*) has been practising Medicine, Surgery or Midwifery as a profession for a period of at least five years prior to the commencement of this Act, or

(*ii*) has practised in any of the above subjects for a period of at least two years prior to such commencement, and has received from a Civil Surgeon or a Presidency Surgeon a certificate stating that he is, in the opinion of such Surgeon, sufficiently qualified to practise Medicine, Surgery and Midwifery, or

(*iii*) has commenced his professional studies in any Medical College or School (whether recognized by Government or not) before the commencement of this Act."

He said :—

"My Lord, I have come to the last of the amendments proposed by me. It is a very important one, and I beg to invite the earnest attention of the Hon'ble Members to it. It is a well-known principle of Legislative Policy that an Act should not have a retrospective effect. They say that every statute which takes away or impairs a vested right acquired under existing laws, or creates a new obligation, imposes a new duty or attaches a new disability in respect of transactions or considerations already passed, must be deemed retrospective in its operation and opposed to those principles of jurisprudence which have been universally recognized as sound. Although the provisions of this Act will be put in force after it receives the assent of His Excellency the Governor General, it will practically have a retrospective effect if my amendment is not accepted. A very large number of

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medical practitioners without any hindrance or opposition from any quarter have been honestly and earnestly carrying on their profession as medical men for a long time and have no doubt done good service to the country. They are now suddenly told that their career is practically at an end. True it is that the present Bill does not prohibit them to practice, but it places a great hindrance on it. They may be allowed to exercise the healing art, but if a certificate is required for the purposes mentioned in the Bill and they grant one, it will not be looked at, nor received ; and the patient will be told to go to a registered medical practitioner to get a certificate from him, and the result will be that the poor man will be put to the extra expense of calling a more expensive man for the purpose of having a certificate only from him. It is well known that the people of this province are very averse to change. They do not like it at all. A man, living in the village, falls ill and calls his village doctor, because he has great faith in him, though he may not be a duly qualified man. He will not like to call one who is duly qualified even if he has the means to do so, but the generality of the people in the mufussal are not able to bear the heavy expense of being treated by a duly qualified doctor. May I beg to ask, is there a sufficient number of duly qualified men to be able to attend to the public at large of this vast province? The answer to the question, my Lord, must be in the negative. I have been told, but I have not been able to ascertain whether it is true or not, that there is only one qualified man in an area of 55 square miles. If that be so, how can he attend to all the sick people living within this area? In Bengal we have only three institutions which impart medical training to the students of this large province—the Medical College of Calcutta, the Campbell Medical School, and the Dacca School of Medicine. It is a well known fact that they are not able to meet the demand of the province, and if only men turned out by them are allowed to practise, the result will be disastrous, because in that case a large number of people will not have any medical assistance whatever. Thanks to our benign Government a large number of charitable dispensaries have been established in Bengal throughout the whole length and breadth of it, and it is a fact that an appreciable number of men who had served as compounders in these institutions have picked up a knowledge in the healing art and these men together with the medical students who have failed to pass their examinations from the above college or schools have now settled in many principal villages of this province to practise medicine, surgery and midwifery, and am glad to be able to say that many of them have acquired a good reputation and have gained the confidence of their patients. Will it be just and fair to put a restraint to their practice? Again, it should be remembered that owing to the paucity of seats in the Medical College and Schools mentioned above, a number of private institutions have sprung up, and they are trying their best to give a sound medical training to every boy who is able to go there. I may inform your Lordship that all these colleges are now crowded in all their classes, and that there are boys, though of very slender means, who have come from great distances in order to get a training in these institutions. These boys have spent from one to four precious years of their lives in these institutions in the hope of earning their bread by practising medicine, surgery, or midwifery after they are able to pass their examinations. May I ask whether it would be reasonable or just to tell these boys—'What a foolish act you have done ; you have come here for nothing ; the instruction you are getting here will be of no use to you, and, even if you pass your examination, you will not be classed among duly qualified men—go back to your home and attend to some other business.' I submit, my Lord, that it will be extremely cruel to deny these boys, after they pass their examination, the privilege of having their names entered in the Register of Practitioners to be kept under this Bill. My Lord, I may be pardoned in pointing out that in so far advanced a country as England an Act like the present one was sought to be introduced in the year 1858 only. Taking into consideration the difference between the two countries in respect of advancement and training, I submit that the time has not yet come to pass such an Act

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here, but as it must be passed, I humbly pray that the Hon'ble Members will kindly take into their consideration the facts mentioned by me and take proper precautions that its operation may not lead to hardship to the people. I submit, My Lord, that when an Act is passed which introduces new qualifications for a class of professional men, it is but just and proper that vested rights of that class should not be interfered with. I therefore hope that concessions may be granted to those who are now actually employed in carrying on the profession of a medical practitioner of five years' standing and the rigidity of the law may be relaxed in favour of boys who have been prosecuting their studies in private institutions. Even in the English Act a provision was inserted in section 46 to the effect that it should be lawful for the General Council by its special orders to dispense with such provision of this Act, or with such part of any regulations made by its authority as to them shall seem fit, in favour of persons who are acting as Surgeons in the public service or in the service of any charitable institutions, and also so far as to the Council shall seem expedient, in favour of medical students who shall have commenced their professional studies before the passing of this Act. I hope, for the reasons mentioned above, my amendment will be accepted. With regard to practitioners who have been practising only for two years, I have laid down that they shall have to produce a certificate from a Civil or a Presidency Surgeon that in his opinion they have sufficient qualifications for practising in the subjects mentioned above."

The Hon'ble MAHARAJADHIRAJA BAHADUR OF BURDWAN said :—

"I think that this amendment is hopeless because, if accepted, it will make registrable every kind of quack practising before the passing of this Bill, and I hope, my friend, after having seen that the other amendments have been withdrawn, and after hearing the assurance given by the Hon'ble Sir William Duke, will deem it fit to withdraw his motion."

The Hon'ble RAI NALINAKSHA BASU BAHADUR said :—

"My amendments relate to persons who are actually affected by the passing of this Bill. I only ask for a concession in favour of these persons."

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON said :—

"I will not trouble the Council with any detailed examination of the Hon'ble Member's speech. I had hopes that I had explained to him on other occasions on which the question arose, what the meaning of the certificate in that clause was. I think all that is necessary is for the Council to examine this particular amendment. The first portion is—every person who has been practising medicine, surgery or midwifery as a profession for a period of at least five years prior to the commencement of this Act—that lets in our old friend, the compounder-doctor. It takes in those pests of society who go round the country operating for cataract—it will let in anybody who chooses to maintain that he has been practising as a doctor for five years.

The second part transfers the right of certifying for medical qualifications from the Medical Council to the Civil Surgeon, which is not, I think, a thing which any Member of the Council will be ready to agree to.

The third lets in anybody on to the register, mind you, who has commenced his professional studies. I do not quite know what commencing professional studies might be, but it might even be taken to be putting your name down as a medical student. We know that in the case of many clubs names are put down as soon as a child is born, and it would be possible under these circumstances for an infant to be brought upon the register as a medical student, as according to the amendment he will not have to complete his professional studies, he has only to commence them, and thereupon comes upon the register. There is no examination, and all that a man has to do

to be registrable is at most to attend one lecture in some school and call himself a medical student. My Lord, for these reasons I oppose this amendment."

The Hon'ble DR. NILRATAN SARKAR said :—

"My Lord, I think it my duty to dissociate myself altogether from this amendment. If it is carried, it will be only less injurious to my own profession than to another body, and that is to humanity at large."

The motion was then put and lost.

Clause 17.

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON said :—

"My Lord, there still remain some amendments the consideration of which was postponed at yesterday's meeting. I would ask your Excellency kindly to have these put to the Council now. The first relates to clause 17, and in pursuance of what I said yesterday in connection with the suggested amendment of this clause, I now ask for Your Lordship's permission to move that for sub-clause (*b*) of clause 17, the following be substituted, namely :—

> "whom the Council after due inquiry (at which an opportunity has been given to him to be heard in his defence and to appear either in person or by counsel, vakil, pleader or attorney, and which may, in the discretion of the President, be held *in camera*), have found guilty by a majority of two-thirds of the members present and voting at the meeting, of infamous conduct in any professional respect."

His Excellency the President having granted permission, the motion was put and agreed to. (This motion covered motions Nos. 24—30, which were postponed from the meeting of the previous day. These motions were thereupon held to be withdrawn.)

Clause 24.

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON said :—

Consequentially upon the acceptance of the amendment of clause 17, I beg to move that for clause 24 (*a*) (*ii*) the following be substituted, namely :—

> "whom the Council, after due inquiry as provided in clause (*b*) of section 17, have found guilty by a majority of two-thirds of the members present and voting at the meeting, of infamous conduct in any professional respect."

The motion was put and agreed to. (This motion covered motions Nos. 44—50, which were postponed from the meeting of the previous day. These motions were thereupon held to be withdrawn.)

Clause 12.

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON said :—

"In consequence of the amendments which the Council have just accepted, we have now to go back to amendment No. 19. I beg to move that at the commencement of proviso (*ii*) to clause 12 (*1*) the following words be inserted: Save as provided in section 17 and section 24.' Clause 12 provides for a bare majority, and this amendment safeguards clauses 17 and 24 in that respect.

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The motion was put and agreed to. Motion No. 19 was thereupon held to be withdrawn and the discussion of the amendments to the Bill was thereby concluded.

List of Business—Item No. 4.—The Hon'ble Mr. Stephenson then moved that the Secretary be directed to renumber the clauses and sub-clauses of the Bill in consecutive order, and to make corresponding alterations in all cross-references thereto.

The motion was put and agreed to.

List of Business—Item No. 5.—The Hon'ble Mr. Stephenson moved that the Bill, as settled in Council, be passed.

The motion was put and agreed to.

THE BENGAL BUDGET FOR 1914-15.

List of Business—Item No. 6.

The PRESIDENT said :—

"We will now proceed to the discussion on the Budget. As Hon'ble members are aware, I have fixed a time-limit of 15 minutes for speeches under rule 34 (3).

The Hon'ble NAWAB SAIYID NAWAB ALY CHAUDHURY, KHAN BAHADUR, said :—

"My Lord, I must congratulate the Hon'ble the Finance Member for the prosperous Budget before us. During the last three years of our budget large sums have been contributed by Imperial assignments for specific purposes, but for which, some of the most urgent requirements of the Presidency would have starved. We cannot always count on the liberality of the Imperial Government. That our finance may keep pace with the growth of expenditure it is necessary that our settlement should be raised and we should therefore ear-mark the provincial surplus balance or apportion it on specific schemes and bring our closing balance in future to approximate the minimum opening balance.

Provincial Equipments.

My Lord, the financial allotments for provincial equipments make no mention of the details of the works, and I would urge that in future definite schemes should be framed and incorporated in the statement so that the Council may be in a position to scrutinize them.

Education.

My Lord, the provision made for payment in support of local schools under District Boards stands at Rs. 2,88,560 against Rs. 14,29,000, the decrease being due to the stoppage of the equilibrium grant on the surrender of the public works cess to the District Boards. It is not known why these grants should be stopped inasmuch as the non-payment of the grants to these bodies would cripple their resources and would defeat the very object for which the Imperial Government has made a recurring assignment of Rs. 24,93,000. In contributing this amount towards the provincial revenues the Government of India intended to set free the slender income of the District Boards from payment of the public works cess, and if again on this very account other grants that have hitherto been counted upon by these bodies as a source of their regular income be suspended, they would hardly be able to tide over their financial embarrassments. I would urge that the grants to the District Boards may continue as heretofore.

My Lord, I am compelled to revert to my last year's resolution suggesting the reservation of a substantial amount for the promotion of Muhammadan education which had the acceptance of Government and to say that in spite of our repeated endeavours nothing tangible has yet resulted.

Nawab Saiyid Nawab Aly Chaudhury, Khan Bahadur.

In replying on behalf of Government on my resolution last year, the then Director of Public Instruction, the Hon'ble Mr. Küchler, expressed himself as follows :—

'The first head—of recommendation of the Education Commission of 1882, namely, that the special encouragement of Muhammadan education be regarded as a legitimate charge on local, municipal and provincial funds—is of a general nature, and the adoption of the resolution by the Council will practically endorse the recommendation which was made by the Commission.' Speaking of the Madrasah Reform Scheme, he said : 'This scheme, if carried into effect, will cost a very large sum of money indeed, and I think that there is no doubt it will be adopted by Government, and Government in adopting it, will show, as it has always shown, I maintain, its readiness to give every facility and every assistance to the cause of Muhammadan education.' . . . . . 'As I have already intimated that Government will offer no objection to the acceptance of this resolution on the part of the Council, it is not necessary for me to say more than that no apprehension need have been felt on the part of the Muhammadan community that their claims would be neglected.' Referring to the speech of Sir Harcourt Butler at Delhi, he said :—'I think this is an ample assurance, and the Muhammadan community need therefore feel no fear that their claims are likely to be neglected.' Then following on the heels of the Government of India Resolution No. 301 C.D. of the 21st February, 1913, on the Indian Educational Policy, a circular was issued to all Local Governments on the 3rd May, 1913, on the subject of Muhammadan education and the directions in which it may be improved. The assurance of Mr. Küchler, coupled with the Government of India circular, came as a soothing balm to the anxious minds of the Musalmans.

My Lord, against all these positive assurances and pious hopes expressed the Hon'ble Mr. Hornell now in his speech of 5th March last records that—'with the exception of Rs. 2,00,000 which has been set aside for the acquisition of land in connection with the establishment of a Muhammadan Arts College in Calcutta and the organization of the Calcutta Madrasah and connected institutions, no sums have been ear-marked for specifically Muhammadan institutions.'

My Lord, in the face of all the promises most emphatically made by Government and the accepting of my resolution for ear-marking a substantial portion of the Imperial assignment, both recurring and non-recurring, for Muhammadan education, I am disappointed to find that all our hopes have been dashed to the ground after the statements of the Hon'ble Mr. Hornell. It is indeed a great pity that after all their assurance to look to the just demands of the Muhammadans, the Government now say point blank that they have allocated all the available funds that were placed at their disposal by the Government of India on educational purposes other than Muhammadan education.

My Lord, I am in duty bound to point out to Government in the most emphatic terms on behalf of my community, that this action on the part of Government is not only in contravention of the spirit of the Imperial Government orders as regards the disposition of their munificent grants, but is a departure from the avowed policy of Government in the furtherance of Muhammadan education.

To add to our disappointment, the Hon'ble Member protests against any suggestion that the Muhammadans are not getting their fair share in the general improvements which the Imperial grants are enabling the Government to effect, and sums up by saying that Muhammadan boys are seeking admission to secondary schools and colleges in ever-increasing numbers, while there are parts of the Presidency in which Muhammadan boys form the majority of those at school. I have already pointed out that during the years 1899 to 1909 Government spent about 62 lakhs of rupees out of the provincial revenues only for higher collegiate education, and that the number of Muhammadan students that received instruction during these years was only 5,114 against the total of 91,858, *i.e.*, 6 per cent., and it can safely be

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asserted that the benefits accruing from the lavish expenditure on the secondary schools and colleges out of the Imperial grants would also be shared by Muhammadan students, but the number would be very insignificant. My Lord, our grievances are higher up: in the collegiate and in the secondary branches of education. It is there that we need the help of Government most, and it is there that we do not get it sufficiently.

Hostels.

I now turn to the provisions made for hostels. Out of the sum of Rs. 5,50,000, the Hon'ble Mr. Hornell said that about a lakh only has been reserved for the accommodation of Muhammadan students.

My Lord, may I venture to ask whether this amount is a proportionate share to the demands of the Muhammadans? Have not the Government of India in their letter cited above already accepted the principle that the poverty of the community is the principal cause that has tended to retard the progress of their education? It is argued that the Muhammadans will get their fair share in the general improvements effected through the Imperial grants. I am at a loss to understand what is called a fair share. Are the Muhammadans allowed to occupy the smallest portion of the new University Law College Hostel towards the construction of which a huge sum was contributed by Government? Are the Muhammadans allowed any seat in the Presidency College over and above the 35 seats each year in the intermediate classes that are given on account of the Madrasah College being disaffiliated, and about 70 more in total in all the higher classes? Are not the Muhammadans turned away in large numbers for want of accommodation in schools and colleges? If these are to be regarded as fair treatment, the future of Muhammadan education is sealed for ever.

Stipends and Scholarships.

My Lord, it has been recognized by the Imperial Government as well as this Government that the poverty of the Muhammadans is a great hindrance to the progress in education and that one of the items of the special facilities to be afforded was the grant of scholarships and stipends. In this respect, too, we are disappointed to find that nothing from the recurring grant has been allowed for this purpose.

The establishment of educational institutions at centres of Muhammadan population has also been passed over in the allotment of the grants.

As regards the distribution of a lakh and a half rupees for the improvement of Secondary Aided English Schools, the three divisions of East Bengal that were just denied appreciable sustenance for the advancement of education having, on the abolition of the Government of Eastern Bengal and Assam, again reverted to their former position, should have been adequately provided.

Madrasah Reform Scheme.

The absence of any provision for the introduction of the Madrasah Reform Scheme is indeed a very deplorable omission. When the Dacca University scheme is launched and classes for Islamic studies are started, students will not be available for these classes unless the Madrasah Reform Scheme is introduced at once and money apportioned thereon.

Female Education.

My Lord, whatever allotment I take for scrutiny, I do not fail to find that the cause of Muhammadan education is the greater sufferer. In paragraph 22 of the speech of the Director of Public Instruction, the grant available for Female education has been taken at Rs. 2,44,000, out of which a sum of Rs. 10,000 is reserved for Muhammadan girls' schools. It will appear from the Quinquennial Review just published that the number of girls and women under instruction in the Primary and Secondary schools

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stands at 163,870, of which 77 per cent. are Hindus and only 16 per cent. Muhammadans. Then again the Muhammadan girls mostly attend the Primary schools and there are few in the Secondary, not even one-sixth of the whole allotment would thus go towards the education of Muhammadan girls.

My Lord, in these circumstances, it will be palpably manifest that the cause of Muhammadan education is still being starved, and I would once again appeal to Your Excellency's Government for a redress of our grievances.

Ferries.

My Lord, I would certainly welcome the construction of bridges over some of the rivers and khals in the Dacca Division, and the sooner the Bengal Local Self-Government Amendment Act of 1908 is extended to those places the better, but I would associate myself with the Commissioner of the division in detesting all toll-bars.

Communal Representation and Public Services.

May Lord, in concluding I cannot but refer to the fact that the time-limit imposed has precluded the possibility of my discussing many a subject of absorbing public interest. I would very much have wished to dwell on the imperative necessity of adequate representation of my community on all self-governing bodies and on the need of admitting Muhammadans in increasing number in public services.

My Lord, these subjects are of such importance that I consider a mere passing reference quite sufficient to draw the attention of Your Excellency's Government for redressing our grievances from the point of view of my community."

The Hon'ble RAJA HRISHIKESH LAHA said :—

"May it please Your Excellency, the Budget which has been presented to the Council by Your Excellency's Government possesses some features which are very marked and encouraging. It shows an opening balance of Rs. 3,04,30,000 and a closing balance of Rs. 1,98,32,000. Such a large surplus, unprecedented indeed in the financial annals of Bengal, is apt to create a feeling of optimism about the real progress and welfare of our province. One cannot help thinking that, with such a large surplus at their disposal, the Government would be in a position to carry out many useful reforms which they have long had in contemplation and also to satisfy some of the crying needs of the country. Bright as the propect is, it is not, however, so bright as it looks. The large balance is mainly due to the special grants from the Government of India not being fully expended for the purposes for which they are intended. The Imperial grants have an unwholesome effect on our standards of expenditure, and though there is some growth in our revenue, yet the growth is slow and is not commensurate with our growing expenditure. Further, the recurring expenses will continue, though the grants from the Imperial Government will cease.

Suspensions of Land-Revenue in the flooded areas.

We are thankful to Your Excellency's Government for the suspensions of land-revenue in the districts of Midnapore and Hooghly in the current year on account of the distress caused by the recent floods. The distress has not totally disappeared in many places, and it still exists in an acute form in Contai in the district of Midnapore. It is, however, doubtful whether the amount of Rs. 2,60,000 allotted for the purpose, will be found adequate. No doubt an investigation has been made, and the suspensions allowed in the Contai subdivision in 1913-14 should not be recovered in full next year as the people there are not expected to recover so soon from the losses caused by the recent flood.

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Residences of Judicial officers.

The amount of Rs. 50,000 only has been allotted for the residences of Judicial officers, and with this amount it is proposed to take up the construction of residences for a District Judge and a Munsif. A larger amount should, I venture to submit, have been granted for the purpose, as the want of proper accommodation is keenly felt by the Munsifs in the mufassal. The removal of the inconveniences of these hard-working officers ought to receive a more sympathetic consideration.

Reduction of fees in Elementary Schools.

We cannot sufficiently thank the Government of India for the assignment they have made for the reduction of fees in elementary schools, and for providing free education in schools in backward areas, in furtherance of which object Your Excellency's Government have, after providing for urgent reforms, allotted Rs. 6,000. The sooner free education is provided on an extended scale the better will it be for the welfare of the country. We are also thankful for the allotments made for increasing the pay of teachers and *gurus* and for the training of the latter.

Excise.

It is indeed a matter for congratulation that there should be a steady increase in the Excise Revenue without any violation of the principles of temperance. From Rs. 1,33,88,200 in 1911-12, the revenue under this head rose to Rs. 1,37,59,045 in 1912-13, and to Rs. 1,52,00,000 in the revised estimate of the present official year. In the next year's budget, Rs. 1,58,00,000 has been estimated, and the combination of the settlement figures and the increased duty on country spirit alone since April last has resulted in an increase of 14 lakhs in the revised estimate accompanied by a decrease in consumption. Satisfactory as these figures are, it should be borne in mind that no head of revenue requires a more careful consideration than Excise. It has a direct concern with labourers of certain classes with whom indulgence in country spirit is not a luxury but a necessity, and Government cannot be too careful in fixing too high a price for it. The higher the price the greater the havoc made on their slender income. They will not be deterred from indulgence on account of the prohibitory nature of the price. It is to be noted that Santhals and other aboriginal hill tribes generally imbibe the habit from an early age, and the gift of country spirit forms a part of their ceremonials. There can be no doubt that keeping down the consumption of country spirit as much as possible is a part of the duty of Government, but the requirements of certain classes of people who will be affected by measures in that behalf should also be taken into consideration before fixing the price at a very high level. If it be excessive it will of itself defeat the purpose for which it is intended and will lead to illicit manufacture.

Allotments from the Imperial grant of 75 lakhs for Education.

The educated community are deeply thankful to the Imperial Government for their magnificent grant of 75 lakhs in 1912-13. The proper assignment of such a vast sum, on which the educational welfare of the province ultimately depends, is a matter of great importance and I should like, with your Excellency's permission, to make a few observations on the same. The sum of 1 lakh allotted to manual instruction is to my mind wholly inadequate. The scheme of adding a modern side to elementary education, which is in accord with the most advanced educational ideas of the West, but which has not hitherto received due attention, would, if carried out on a proper scale, be one of the most potent factors in shaping the educational and industrial destiny of the province. Manual instruction in most civilized countries is now regarded as a part of liberal education, and in India it is specially needed to create industrial aptitudes on the young and

tender minds, and thus lay the foundation of the industrial progress of the country. An early training of the eye or the hand can alone correct the over literary tendencies of the Indian mind, which are fostered by the existing literary universities as distinguished from modern technical universities, such as those of Manchester, Birmingham or Leeds, the like of which has not yet come into existence in India. The department of manual training in our ordinary schools is therefore a most important, though costly department, which will create the taste and the demand for industrial careers, and will be the ultimate recruiting ground of the elaborately-planned Technological Institute which Government are going to establish. I should therefore recommend this important reform of modernizing our school education to a more generous consideration of the Government and plead for a larger grant for the purpose.

School of Tropical Medicine.

The next observation that I should like to make is in connection with the School of Tropical Medicine. Though it would be located in Calcutta, its usefulness and benefits will extend beyond the bounds of this province, and I do not see why it should be treated as a provincial concern to be maintained by provincial funds and not as an all-India concern in the expenses of which all the provinces should participate. I hope and trust therefore that the Imperial and the other Provincial Governments will see their way to contribute towards its establishment and maintenance."

The Hon'ble NAWAB SIR KHWAJA SALIMULLAH BAHADUR, G.C.I.E., K.C.S.I., said :—

My Lord, I must express my deep regret that in consequence of ill-health and family misfortunes I have been prevented from attending the previous Sessions of this Council. Now, however, by the blessing of God I find myself able to take a part in the proceedings ; and I hope in the future to be able to place my services more actively at the disposal of the Council. In connection with my enforced absence I may mention a personal disadvantage which I have experienced ; I have not been able to make myself fully conversant with the rules of procedure of the Council ; and, in consequence, I was a signatory to a representation made to your Excellency asking to be allowed more time in which to give notice of Resolutions. I wish to say now that after the statement made by your Excellency, and a study of the rules of the Council, I fully understand that it was not possible for your Excellency's Government to grant the request made.

I have every confidence, my Lord, that under your Excellency's sympathetic administration mutual feelings of trust and confidence must grow up and increase among us.

And this feeling emboldens me to put forward the representations, and make the suggestions, and requests, which I am now about to lay before you.

Financial.

My Lord, I desire to associate myself with a feeling which is felt in all communities, and which has been emphasized in all quarters : the feeling that this Presidency should have greater financial independence in the future. As matters now stand, revenue is divided between the Local Government and the Imperial Government ; and the share falling to the Local Government is clearly insufficient for the local wants under the vigorous and progressive policy of your Excellency's administration. To make up the deficiency we have to depend upon such extra funds as the Imperial Government can be persuaded to allot to us ; and while I do not for a moment wish to be understood to imply that the Government of India would treat, or does treat, this Government unfairly, I think that it would be more becoming, and would tend to increase efficiency, if your Excellency's Government were allowed a larger control over its receipts and disbursements.

The Nawab of Dacca.

Education.

My Lord, I desire to offer my warmest congratulations to your Excellency's Government on the liberal manner in which the subject of education is generally being treated at your hands. In the matter of education we have much lee-way to make up, and every penny spent on the cause means an additional step gained. But, my Lord, while finding so much in this subject on which respectfully to congratulate your Government, I desire equally respectfully to draw attention to the tendency to devote so much time to considering and maturing schemes that too little time is left to give full effect to them. For two years a sum of Rs. 91,000 has been set apart for the extension of the Baker Madrasah Hostel, but I regret to state that the scheme in connection with it has not yet passed the stages of discussion.

The problem of Muhammadan Education, more especially in the higher Collegiate branch, has been for long receiving the sympathetic attention of your Excellency's Government. I sincerely trust that it will be found possible in the very near future to bring the question of Muhammadan education in all its branches to a clear and definite determination; and that such definite determination may be followed by a strong and vigorous policy of action on the part of Government. It is much to be feared that if time is lost in deferring decisions on schemes which are now under Government consideration, a break may occur in the continuity of the policy in connection with Muhammadan Education—since "Hope deferred maketh the heart sick." The Hon'ble Mr. Samman in reply to a question in this Council, a short time ago, admitted that there is need of hostel accommodation for Muhammadon students in the University Law College. May I hope, my Lord, that the need being admitted, we may look for practical relief in the near future?

Medical.

I wish, my Lord, to make a few remarks in connection with the charges under the medical head. I feel that it is much to be desired that Government, on their own initiative, should take measures to improve the sanitary conditions of mufassal towns, since too many of them are still in a most deplorable sanitary condition. I also hope that with the Bengal Medical Bill, now passed into law, not only that the number of medical schools in the Presidency may be increased, but that the existing ones may, in the many cases in which reforms are essential to efficiency, be put on a proper and efficient footing.

While on this subject I wish to draw the attention of Government to the necessity for affording greater facilities to Muhammadan students desirous of admission to the Calcutta Medical College. Matriculates, it is true, are eligible for admission under the University Regulations; but in practice preference is given to graduates and Intermediate passed students; and, as the number of these is fairly large among the Hindus, but in consequence of the much-to-be-regretted neglect of English education shown by Muhammadans until a very recent date still small among my community, the authorities seldom find room for Muhammadan students with the lesser qualifications, even though they are eligible under the rules. I trust that it is not too much to hope, in the interests of the Muhammadan community, that Government will cause an inquiry to be made into the number of Muhammadan students in the Medical College coming from the Presidency of Bengal; and, in the event of their finding that my complaint is well founded, that some remedy may be devised, or rules passed, which will cause Muhammadans to be admitted in larger numbers than at present.

I also take this opportunity to express the hope that provision may be made, from the large allotment for the purpose of construction of hostels, to provide a hostel in connection with the Dacca Medical School. The need for such an institution is very keenly felt; and there is no possible doubt in my mind that money expended for such a purpose would be money exceedingly well spent.

The Nawab of Dacca.

Dacca Lakheraj lands.

My Lord, it is a cause of genuine pleasure to all concerned that the knotty problems and difficult questions in connection with the Dacca lakheraj lands, which have been pending for the last hundred years or more, have now been so satisfactorily solved. The thanks of all concerned are due to the local officers who have been engaged on the spot on the inquiry in connection with this matter, and I feel it my duty, as well as a pleasure, to congratulate your Excellency's Government on the happy solution of a problem which has of late been agitating the public mind more than a little.

Police.

Regarding the provision made in the Budget under the heading Police, I, sharing the feeling with many others, think that expenditure in connection with the police has become a burden for which, in point of fact, commensurate results are not obtained. I do not seek to blame individuals; but, judging from results, it appears to me that the system under which police work is carried out must be susceptible of improvement. Probably I think the difficulties lie mostly in connection with the training of the force; such training being carried out on old lines; which lines, however, suitable to the prevention of the old-established forms of crime, perpetrated by a lower class of criminals, ignorant, unorganized and generally unintelligent, are not calculated to enable the force to cope with certain latter-day form of crime, perpetrated by a class of persons possessed of shrewd intelligence and considerable ability aided by some scientific knowledge. I am aware that this subject must have engaged the most serious and earnest attention of your Government: and it is not with a veiw to indulge in destructive criticisms tending to embarrass the Government, but entirely with the idea of assisting in what I consider a much-needed reform that I suggest that it might be advisable that certain specialists should be trained to combat this form of crime under a system more akin to that in force in Scotland Yard, the head-quarters of the London Metropolitan Police Force.

Dacca University.

My Lord, I have to express my heartiest thanks to Government that provision has been made in the Budget for the Dacca University; and I hope by the end of the official year that a commencement of the work in connection with it will have been made. I cannot close my remarks without referring briefly to one of the special features of the Dacca University Report. I mean the College for the well-to-do classes. Much adverse criticism has been directed at the proposal to form such a college; but it would, in my view, be deplorable if such criticisms were allowed to override the considered opinion in favour of creating it. For one reason or another, into which it is needless to enter in detail, a disintegrating process has been at work among the landlord class in Bengal. As a consequence the old type of zamindars, once renowned for their liberality and their liberal-mindedness, is slowly being wiped out of existence; and if the process be not arrested, the old class, with their old traditions, will eventually become extinct. To arrest the progress of disintegration, an education suited to the special needs and requirements of the class is necessary. The ordinary education of the college as found in Bengal is of little or no use for this purpose; nor does an academic degree obtained at the University tend more than most remotely to bring about the reform which is so essential. What the class I refer to requires is a sound training in zamindari work; a proper acquaintance with social accomplishments, both mental and physical; the acquirement of a sense of fairness and equity; and, above all, the attainment of a clear conception of a landlord's duties and responsibilities. I am confident that such an institution as the proposed College for the well-to-do classes would lead not only to an economic improvement in the properties owned by

landlords who had passed through the institution, but would also pave the way towards a better understanding and happier relations between landlords and tenants generally, and in this way, ultimately help not only to make tenants happier and more contented; but in addition would tend considerably to bring the landlord back to live on his property; instead of living, as he does in too many cases at present, as an alien to the place which bred him. My Lord, in spite of the opposition which has been displayed to this measure, I do hope that the Government will stand by the recommendation made by the University Committee, and support a measure, which I am convinced, must be beneficial both to the landlord and to the tenant classes.

Representation of the Muhammadan on District and Local Boards and Municipalities.

My Lord, I have one more subject to touch on—a subject which specially interests me as a member of the Muhammadan community. I refer to the existing constitution of District and Local Boards and Municipalities; and the subject becomes one of burning interest to my community when, as now, large allotments have been made for improving the sanitary and educational conditions of the country. My Lord, Muhammadans form more than 50 per cent. of the total population; and we ask that the administrative machinery of the country shall be so adjusted that the Muhammadan community may be proportionately represented on these bodies. With sacred places demolished in pursuance of Municipal Resolutions, with sanitary and lighting arrangements more defective in Muhammadan quarters than elsewhere, with municipal schools without provision for Persian or Arabic teaching, with meat shops banished beyond municipal limits, we Muhammadans ask that the principle of communal representation may be recognized to the full by your Excellency's Government; so that Muhammadans may obtain full and effective representation on these local bodies. Reforms in this respect, we feel, are badly needed, and the sooner these reforms can be taken in hand and put through the better. My community earnestly hopes that before your Excellency lays down the reins of office a solution of the problem in connection with Muhammadan disabilities will have been arrived at.

Muhammadan Loyalty.

Now, my Lord, one last word. As a Muhammadan, I should like to take this opportunity of dispelling an illusion which appears to exist in various quarters. It is said that the Muhammadans of this Presidency have also become disloyal. I say emphatically that no greater insult has ever been offered to our community here, and that the authors of such calumny are neither well-wishers of the Government or of the people; and I declare with all the force in my power that the Muhammadan community is not disloyal and never can be disloyal.

My Lord, with these observations, and thanking Your Excellency and the Hon'ble Members of the Council for giving me a patient hearing, I beg to resume my seat.

The Hon'ble MR. A. W. C. CHAPLIN said :—

Improvement of the Duars Roads.

My Lord, I understand that the preliminary surveys for the improvement of the Duars roads have now been completed and the cost of the programmes, as submitted to Government, amounts to Rs. 24½ lakhs for the Public Works Department roads and 10 lakhs for the Jalpaiguri District Board roads, or a total of about 34½ lakhs. I understand that Government, after full consideration of these proposals, have practically accepted the programmes *in toto*,

Mr. Chaplin.

and, although it has not been found possible at present to allot the whole amount required for the full programme, they have decided to carry out as much of it as possible in the near future, and that it is probable that a sum of 20 lakhs will be found during the next four years towards the cost of the construction of the more immediately important roads.

I desire at the outset, on behalf on the Duars, to thank your Excellency's Government for the sympathetic attitude you have adopted and for your recognition of this question, which is of such vital importance to the welfare of that great district. The proposals for the improvement of the Duars roads were drawn up after great deliberation and exhaustive enquiry and discussion by the Public Works Department and District Officers in consultation with the leading planters of the district. They provide for a concrete scheme involving two systems of roads, the one having its focus at Jalpaiguri and the other at Alipur Duar. The Tursa river divides the Duars into two parts geographically, and this division is accentuated by the railway system. The completion of these two road systems, having their foci at Jalpaiguri and Alipur Duar, respectively, is an essential preliminary to a complete system of roads linking up the whole of the Duars. It was originally intended that these two systems should be connected by a bridge or ferry across the Tursa river and a metalled road from Alipur Duar to Dhupguri. It has now, however, been decided to omit this portion, and against this decision I raise no protest, as I recognize that, until the two main systems are completed, it would not secure any immediate advantage and the postponement of the expensive connecting road to some future date is not unreasonable.

The scheme of roads, as accepted by Government, provides for a network of roads inter-connecting the various sub-districts of the Duars with each other and with the railway stations and main roads leading to the sadar stations, Jalpaiguri and Alipur Duar. I understand that, in view of the fact that it has not been found possible to allot more than 20 lakhs during the next four years towards the full programme, Government have asked the Duars Planters what possible reduction, or postponement, of certain works can be made until after 1917-18, when it may be possible to find further funds for such works. This raises a question of some difficulty, and I am desired by the communities whom I represent on this Council, to urge Government to definitely provide funds for the main scheme, as submitted by the Public Works Department, and to undertake the completion of, anyhow, the full Public Works Department programme at as early a date as possible. Having regard to the primary principle of the scheme, namely, to establish through-road communications throughout the Duars, it is impossible to eliminate, or reduce, any of the main roads provided for in the programme, without seriously curtailing, and even destroying, the system on which the utility of the scheme depends. Disconnected sections of roads are of little use to a district as a whole, and links taken out here and there will surely tend to destroy the whole chain. I would therefore urge on Government the acceptance of the Public Works Department Programme of 24½ lakhs in its entirety and that the whole of the 20 lakhs available, and as much more as can be found possible, be allocated to this purpose.

I understand that the proposals included a grant of about 6 lakhs towards the District Board Programme. If sufficient funds are unavailable, let this part be postponed. The Jalpaiguri District Board has now increased funds at its disposal as a result of the recent decision of the Government of India to make over the Public Works Cess funds to the District Boards, and as these surplus funds will be further increased by the transference of certain of its roads to the Public Works Department, it seems not improbable that the District Board may be able to deal with its own programme with the funds at its disposal, supplemented, if necessary, by a loan when, and if, required, or possibly, a special grant from Government at some future date.

I therefore suggest that the following important main roads on the Public Works Department Programme, estimated to cost 24½ lakhs, be

Maharaja Ranajit Sinha of Nashipur.

undertaken first and that work on them be put in hand in the order named, namely :—

Public Works Department Road Programme.

Year.	Schedule No.	Road.	Estimated cost.
			Rs.
1914-15 ...	14	Chulsa to Latiguri	81,000
	15	Latiguri to Barnes	1,59,720
	19	Nagrakata to Chengmari	73,000
	18	Chulsa to Nagrakata	1,57,800
	9	Banarhat to Chengmari	44,000
	7	Gairkatta to Binaguri	50,000
	6	Dhupguri to Gairkatta	94,000
	3	Alipur to Kumargram	5,13,000
1915-16 ...	1	Jainti to Rydak	2,80,350
	11	Dalgaon to Lankapara	1,20,000
1916-17 ...	17	Dam Dim to Chulsa	1,12,000
	8	Binaguri to Banarhat	24,000
	20	Meenglass to Dam Dim	26,000
	2	Hatipoda to Samuktolla	1,13,800
	10	Gairkatta to Dalgaon	86,000
	4	Jalpaiguri to Mainaguri	37,000
	5	Mainaguri to Dhupguri	2,62,500
	12	Sam Sing to Matelli	38,500
	13	Matelli to Zaruati	
	16	Pillanshat to Dam Dim	1,73,000
			24,45,670

The Hon'ble MAHARAJA RANAJIT SINHA of Nashipur said :—

"My Lord, after keeping aside the minimum closing balance of 20 lakhs, and every item of expenditure which has been earmarked for specific purposes, we shall have a closing balance of Rs. 25,96,000, which is very satisfactory, and for which the Hon'ble Member in charge of Finance deserves our heartfelt thanks and congratulations.

The Burdwan Floods.

My Lord, the distress which the recent floods caused in the districts of Hooghly and Midnapore was so intense that it will take some time for those districts to recover their normal condition, but we are grateful to your Excellency's Government for the suspension of the land revenue of those districts, and for the interest which your Excellency took in alleviating the sufferings of the people by making a special grant from Government on account of the floods.

Education.

My Lord, in our colleges, besides the professors who are recruited from the Indian Educational Service, there are two classes of men engaged. One is called a professor, and the other a lecturer. Both these classes of people do the same work, and there is no distinction between their qualifications, but one is drawn from the Provincial Educational Service and the other from the Subordinate Educational Service, so I venture to appeal to your Lordship's Government that these two classes of persons should have the same pay and status, and that they should both be drawn from the Provincial Educational Service.

My Lord, when I suggested last year about the extension of female education to the zanana, the Hon'ble Mr. Küchler, who was then Director of Public Instruction, assured the Council that there would be a material advance within the course of the year, and in reply to my question the Hon'ble Mr. Samman, on the 1st December last, enlightened the Council as to

the progress made in that direction up to that time. But I find that only the sum of Rs. 30,000 has been provided as a lump sum for female education. The Hon'ble Member has not sent in his corrected speech yet. I am not sure if this is the only amount that has been provided for this purpose, but, if that be so, I am constrained to say that it is not adequate for such an important matter. Female education should not only be limited to a few districts, but should be further extended, and experiments should be made in all the districts and subdivisions of this Presidency.

Sanitation.

My Lord, I find that we were unable to spend the entire amount which was budgetted last year for the improvement of sanitation, and this year, too, there is a provision of Rs. 18,53,000, of which it is said that there will be a probable saving of Rs. 10,00,000, so that the actual figure which it is contemplated to spend is only Rs. 8,83,000. The question of improvement of sanitation has become so pressing in this country that I think delay in carrying out the reform would be grievous. It may be said that the municipalities do not come forward to the Government to ask for a special grant for the purpose. On previous occasions I tried to impress on your Lordship's Government that it is not possible for the local bodies to apply for a substantial grant for the completion of any of the important schemes for the improvement of sanitation and so my prayer is to your Lordship that schemes for drainage and water-supply should be made free of cost for all municipalities; and in that case they would be in a position to know what are their requirements and what sums they will be able to spend within their own resources, and what sums they should approach the Government for a grant. My Lord, it is necessary that every municipality should be provided with drainage and water-supply. As far as my experience goes as Chairman of the Murshidabad Municipality for 12 years, I find that it is impossible for any municipality to undertake drainage schemes on account of the heavy cost; but if we get a scheme, we can do the work piecemeal, the work is done gradually. So I appeal to your Lordship's Government that schemes for drainage and water-supply might be ordered free of cost, so that municipalities and local bodies may not have to pay on that account. The whole country is indebted to your Excellency for the interest your Excellency took in proposing to supply every village with an adequate supply of pure drinking water, and the entire amount on account of the public works cess has been assigned to the District Boards for that purpose. But, my Lord, I am afraid that the District Boards are inclined to spend more money on roads and bridges, and unless the Government earmark at any rate some portion of this grant for the purpose I am afraid that that material progress will not be made in this connection within a reasonable time.

My Lord, I understand that the sum of Rs. 50,000 has been allotted by the Government of India for cutting jungles as an experimental measure in order to drive away malaria from this country, but the experts here are of opinion that it would be useless to spend any amount for making such an experiment. Whatever may be the opinion of the experts, the popular opinion is otherwise. It may not be useful in the rural areas owing to the scattered nature of the population, but if an experiment be tried in municipalities and small towns I think that it might be successful. So I venture to suggest that your Excellency's Government may find it possible to make an experiment in this direction, at least in some of the municipalities which exist in the districts of Murshidabad and Jessore, which are the most malarious districts in the whole of Bengal.

Dredging.

My Lord, I find that last year I suggested the dredging out of the entrance of the Bhagirathi River, and I am glad to notice that provision has been made in this respect in the current year's Budget, for which our grateful thanks are due to your Excellency's Government. My Lord, I

Maharaja Ranajit Sinha of Nashipur.

find that on page 66 a provision of Rs. 20,000 has been made, whereas in the schedule attached to page 201 find that Rs. 16,000 has been budgetted. I cannot reconcile the figures, and I hope that the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Public Works Department will be able to remove my doubts in that respect. I venture also to submit that the other navigable rivers which have gradually silted up should also be dredged. It would not only facilitate trade and river traffic, but it would also go towards improving the source of supply of good drinking water to the villages through which these rivers flow.

Special allowance to officers in charge of subdivisions.

My Lord, I find that the officers, in charge of the subdivisions of the districts, whether belonging to the Indian Civil Service or the Provincial Civil Service, have grave responsibility and that they are the most hard-worked of officers. They do not get leave such as other officers enjoy, and their responsibilities were never so great as they are now, when lawlessness and disorder prevail. They receive, however, no corresponding advantages over their brother officers who are at the sadar. Even the Sub-Inspectors of Police who are deputed as Court Inspectors get special allowances for those duties, but these hard-working officers do not get any allowance, except that they are allowed residential quarters. I appeal to your Excellency's Government that the matter might receive careful and favourable consideration, and that some provision will be made in next year's Budget in the matter of special recognition of these officers.

Encouragement of the Ayurvedic system of medicine.

My Lord, we passed the Medical Bill this morning, and it was said by my friend, the Hon'ble Colonel Harris, that the *kabirajes* have got no standard, and so they could not be registered; and so I appeal to your Excellency's Government that some encouragement might be given to the Ayurvedic system of medicine. Encouragement has already been given to Oriental learning, in the shape of examinations and diplomas given to Sanscrit scholars. I must admit that there has been a material progress in that direction. The people in the interior of the districts suffer generally for the greater portion of the year from malarial fever and bowel complaints, and other complications, owing to the poisoned atmosphere which they imbibe, and it is not possible for them always to call in doctors and place themselves under allopathic treatment which is very costly, and they have recourse, therefore, to the Ayurvedic treatment. But there are very few *kabirajes* now in the interior who can treat under this system successfully, and so they have to depend upon quacks. If your Excellency's Government would encourage this Ayurvedic system of treatment, I am sure that in the course of a few years the country would turn out a good number of *kabirajes*, who would be fully qualified, and who would be helpful to the people living in the villages in the interior, who cannot afford to call in allopathic doctors.

My Lord, owing to the *parda* system prevalent in this country, the women of this country are very reluctant to place themselves under the treatment of male doctors, whether they can afford to do so or not, and it becomes essentially necessary to increase the number of lady doctors in this country. Her Excellency Lady Hardinge has laid the foundation stone of a female medical college at Delhi, and I think that if a female medical school of that nature be established in our Presidency, a long-felt want in that connection will be removed.

Service of Summonses.

I have only one word more, and I shall conclude. My Lord, I am very grateful to your Excellency's Government for increasing the initial pay of the munsiffs from Rs. 200 to Rs. 250, and creating a new grade of munsifs. My Lord, the litigants, however, are suffering. Those who are conversant with the practice and conditions of the Court must see that these people feel great inconvenience.

Maulvi Mazharul Anwar Chaudhuri.

Furthermore, they find it a great expense to have summonses served through the peons. The classes of peons who serve these summonses have a method of their own in doing their work and so the litigants, both plaintiffs and defendants, are suffering in a great many respects, into the details of which I would not like to enter here. These peons as a class do not bear a good reputation. If matters cannot be very easily set right, I should suggest that the service of summons may be made through the post-office. I understand that this system has been tried in some districts, and I beg to submit that this may be extended to other districts at least as an experimental measure; and if it is found successful, we may be able to reduce the number of process-serving peons. With these few words, I beg to resume my seat.

The Hon'ble Maulvi MAZHARUL ANWAR CHAUDHURI said :—

Hostels for Muhammadans.

"My Lord, I wish to congratulate your Excellency's Government on the satisfactory character of the Budget. I must say that having regard to the increasing and insistent demand for hostel accommodation, the Budget allotment for hostels in the muffasal does not seem to be quite adequate. My Lord, in the Burdwan Division, with the exception of Hooghly, no other district contains, or has thought fit to provide, hostels for Muhammadan students. In Midnapore a hostel was recently built by Government, and it was intended that it should accommodate both Hindu and Muhammadan students. But somehow or other no Muhammadan college student at Midnapore has yet found a seat in the hostel. So, my Lord, a hostel specially for Muhammadans will also have to be built and that, too, in the course of this year. Burdwan is an important Muhammadan centre in West Bengal, and the want of hostels for Muhammadan students in that town has been very keenly felt for some time past. Last year the Hon'ble Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan and Maulvi Abul Kasem strongly appealed to your Lordship's Government for the establishment of hostels for Muhammadan boys in the town of Burdwan, and I understand that Mr. Küchler, the late Director of Public Instruction, gave hopes of a speedy removal of the want of a hostel in that town. In May last, Mr. Stark, the Divisional Inspector of Schools for Burdwan Division, visited Burdwan, and held a conference with the local gentlemen and with the local educational officers, and actually selected a site for a Muhammadan hostel, and I understand that he assured the local gentry that he will send up proposals to your Lordship's Government for sanction without delay of the scheme. But, my Lord, up to this moment nothing has been done. Want of hostel accommodation has been keenly felt in Burdwan, and although Government has done nothing up to this moment, the local gentry have, as a temporary measure, rented a small building where free lodging accommodation is given to the Muhammadan students of colleges and schools of the town of Burdwan. But this cannot last long, and I earnestly appeal to your Excellency's Government to build a hostel in Burdwan in the course of the financial year. My Lord, hostel accommodation for Muhammadan students is also badly needed in Birbhum, Bankura, Ulubaria and other places in the Burdwan district. Now that the former apathy and indifference of the Muhammadans to English education has given place to a keen desire, and I must say, enthusiasm for it, it would be a matter for great pity if that desire and enthusiasm is to be damped for want of facilities, which the Government can easily provide. I therefore earnestly appeal to your Excellency's Government to establish hostels for Muhammedan students in all districts and subdivisional towns in the Presidency and Burdwan Division, where such hostels do not already exist, and build as many as the budget allotment will allow.

Maulvi Mazharul Anwar Chaudhuri.

The Chaukidari Tax.

I next wish to draw your Lordship's attention to the grievances of the people in respect of the chaukidari force. I do not know precisely the system by which chaukidars used to be paid in other divisions of Bengal, but so far as the Burdwan Division is concerned, the chaukidars used to hold zemin lands for the service, and the people had to pay nothing whatever for their services. These chaukidars, when they held the chakran lands, used to work for the zamindars in the matter of zemin collections and used to help the villagers at their social and ceremonial occasions. But the Government in their wisdom assumed these lands a few years ago and settled them on the zamindars on condition of their paying half-rent of these lands and gave them the other half as compensation for the loan of the service of chaukidars. As half-rent of these lands was not sufficient to meet the entire cost of maintaining the chaukidars, Government imposed chaukidari taxes. The people justly complain that they have been taxed without getting any benefit which they were in enjoyment before. Therefore this tax presses heavily on the poorer classes, and especially on the labourers. These labourers earn from Rs. 5 to Rs. 10 a month, and with that small pittance they have to maintain their wives and children, and sometimes their aged parents. Thus your Excellency's Government will see how hard and difficult it is for these people to pay this tax. It is not an uncommon sight to see brass *lotas* and plates of these poorer people seized by the collecting panchayats by the aid of the chaukidars. This is only roughly the position of the people. If the Government will not bear the entire expenses of maintaining the chaukidars, a less objectionable mode of raising money should be found, and as this chaukidari system is an integral part of the ordinary police force, they ought to be maintained out of the general revenue, as the ordinary police officers. There is another circumstance which makes it all the more incumbent on the Government to bear the entire cost of maintaining the chaukidars. I mean this: These chaukidars are now employed as process-servers on behalf of Government. Certain notices, such as land registration notices, and similar notices are now generally served by these chaukidars. It should be remembered that the parties upon whom these notices are served are regularly being charged with process-fees. These chaukidars are actually earning money for Government, and therefore it is the greater reason that these chaukidars should be entirely maintained by Government, and absolutely there is no justification whatever for taxing the people of any part of the cost of maintaining the chaukidars."

The Damoodar Floods.

With respect to the floods on the west side of the Damodar, I said what I have had to say while I had the honour of moving a resolution on the subject on the 3rd March last. Mr. Finnimore in his sympathetic reply which induced me to withdraw the resolution, stated that Mr. Addams-Williams was engaged in investigating the matter. I understand that the report of Mr Williams will soon be received by the Government, if it has not already been received by them. If the suggestions which Mr. Williams may make or has already made, calculate to prevent the ravages of the floods, measures which he recommends ought to be taken in hand at once. Therefore my Lord, some provision ought to have been made for it in the Budget. Although no provision has been made for a scheme which Mr. Williams may recommend or has already recommended, calculating to remove or greatly minimize the ravages of flood, that scheme ought to be taken in hand in the course of the year, out of the reserve of 20 lakhs of rupees which we find in the Budget.

Proposed alignment of the Howrah-Bistopur line.

"My Lord, the proposed alignment of the Howrah-Bistopur line shows that when the line is constructed, the situation of the country to the north of the line will be very gravely aggravated. Even if the Bengal-Nagpur Railway

Company builds 8 miles of bridges for the flood zone to free the discharge, the speedy discharge of the flood water from the northern part of the country towards the south, and into which the Rupnarain will flow will be greatly obstructed. Therefore, my Lord, this is the proper time for taking remedial measures in hand."

The Hon'ble MR. BAYLEY said :—

The Port of Chittagong.

My Lord, I wish, with your Excellency's permission, to make a few remarks on the financial needs of Chittagong Port, which I urge require the pressing consideration of Government. The Port Commissioners in February had the great advantage of obtaining the opinion of Sir Francis Spring, Chairman of the Madras Port, on the present necessities of the Port to keep it in a state fit to receive without difficulty the large steamers now trading to the Port.

Sir Francis Spring is a recognized authority, perhaps the greatest in India in such matters, and we may, therefore, accept his views as sound; moreover, they coincide with those of the late Mr. J. R. Bell.

Our most urgent requirement is the provision of hopper barges at a cost of about 3 lakhs, to be used in conjunction with the one dredger we now have; this equipment, it is hoped, will carry us on for a short time, but it must be followed by the addition of a new dredger at a cost of 10 lakhs which we have urged for some years. Approximately, therefore, we ask for 13 lakhs, and to enable us to use these appliances, about 1½ lakhs will be required as working expenses. These are the very minimum requirements with which we can hope to keep our river and bars in a fit state; it will take more than two years to obtain both the hopper and dredger, and when I say that the water on the outer bar is at the present moment less deep than in past years, while at the same time the river is silting up opposite the Railway jetties, our one dredger will, therefore, have the greatest difficulty in coping with the situation, and it will be realized that our position is much more serious than heretofore, and in fact we are in a most critical position.

Sir Francis Spring is now preparing a second memorandum which will advise the Chittagong Port Commissioners as to the programme to be placed before Government for further facilities and improvements to be carried out in a fixed number of years, and I hope that the Chittagong Port Commissioners will now very shortly be able to place before Government a definite programme and proposals as to the provision of funds. This will, I trust, receive sympathetic consideration from Government.

The following figures relative to the expansion of trade are of interest, and justify my hope that Government will give monetary help. The Custom figures show increases, such as value of trade in 1903, 283 lakhs against 993 lakhs in 1913-14, salt imports in 1903, 5 lakhs against 14 lakhs in 1913-14, while the trade over the Railway jetties has increased by 20 per cent. to 30 per cent. yearly increases during the last four or five years. These figures show that trade has increased in great volume in past years, and there are indications that it will continue to do so in the future, but it is important to note that this steady progress has taken place without practically any increase in the Railway extensions in the hinterland.

There is, however, every possibility that in the near future private enterprise will provide branch railways in the Dacca and Mymensingh districts, which will without doubt give great stimulus to trade passing through the Chittagong Port, and, therefore, not only is it necessary for Imperial funds, through the Railway Board, to be provided for additional Railway jetties to be ready to deal with the increased number of ships expected, but it is imperative for the Port Commissioners to be provided with funds to keep the river and approaches in such a state that larger ships can be received.

Dr. D. P. Sarbadhikari.

We have strong hopes that in a few number of years, perhaps within ten, the increased trade will make us self-supporting, so far as our yearly expenses are concerned, and we also trust that the position of our finances will then be such that we shall be able to raise funds in the open market without coming to Government for assistance.

We are not unmindful or forgetful of the great assistance we have had in the past, but in the meantime as the Government have spent so many lakhs on the Port works and on the Railway jetties and appliances, it will be a great pity if all this large sum is, after all, to be wasted through the failure of funds being provided at this critical moment to prevent the silting up and closing of the channels ; *immediate* relief is, therefore, sought by the provision of at least 3 lakhs, to be followed by a provisional grant of 10 lakhs to permit of an order for a dredger being placed to save future delay. I trust, therefore, your Excellency's Government will be pleased to afford the Port Commissioners of Chittagong the monetary assistance they so urgently need.

The Hon'ble Dr. DEBA PRASAD SARBADHIKARI said :—

Education.

My Lord, the Educational Budget will be dealt with by many Hon'ble Members. It is no longer the exclusive preserve or privilege of the University member on your Excellency's Council to deal with this important question. My work has also been largely lightened in regard to the question of Muhammadan education, which I used to make my special care in former years. Many competent and willing colleagues have taken up this important branch of the question. I would therefore confine my observations to a few principal topics.

In spite of the tolerably large grants of the Government of India, your Excellency's Government is in some difficulty with regard to their practical application in the absence of clear and definite understanding as to the direction of the diversion of funds not overtly earmarked. The University, for example, have always understood that the Fish Market, for the acquisition of which they have long been pressing and which has been more than promised in order to relieve congestion in regard to class-rooms and hostel accommodation, would soon be available. It has, however, not been able yet to obtain the necessary funds for the necessary buildings, because in certain minds there still exists an idea that the Fish Market is being acquired for "general educational purposes," and not for definite University purposes. The work inaugurated by the retiring Vice-Chancellor will immediately suffer if the Fish Market be not acquired and made over to the University and if funds be not found for building on it at the earliest possible date. Another field of academic usefulness, which the University Institute represents and in which your Excellency, the members of your Excellency's Government and your Excellency's Secretaries all take the greatest possible interest, is suffering much for the want of the 3 lakhs of rupees long supposed to have been sanctioned and earmarked for its building and furnishing. This is an important feature of the supplementary University education to which we attach so much importance. For University work proper, besides capital expenditure of not less than 30 lakhs spread over a short number of years, we urgently want Rs. 50,000 for post-graduate teaching, Rs. 36,000 for the Sir Tarak Nath Palit Laboratory, Rs. 20,000 for University Readers, Rs. 6,000 for University Librarian, Rs. 6,000 for the Secretary to the Governing Body for post-graduate teaching, and Rs. 72,000 for six University Professors detailed in our letter to the Government of India through your Excellency last October. Elaborate post-graduate teaching arrangements have been recently made in the University, but it is fully intended and necessary that college post-graduate teaching should not in any way suffer. Generous provision for this has to be made in Government colleges. The Presidency College Improvement Scheme has not been pushed on with

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the vigour that we had looked forward to, and the Governing Body have important and pressing schemes in this connection as well as in connection with the strengthening of post-graduate teaching which are claimant in their demand. I believe the Sanskrit College, in which, to our regret and shame, M.A. affiliation in Sanskrit has not been possible for the last few years, will require considerable strengthening. Various mufassal colleges that desire to undertake M.A. teaching will also have to be strengthened a great deal. So will the private colleges with regard to this matter as also with regard to the hostel scheme. The Budget under discussion makes inadequate provision for these demands. I trust early opportunity will be found for having the whole situation cleared up and for having continued and progressive work assured in the University and in the field of education in general, instead of having a dead-lock as is apprehended in some quarters. I have every sympathy with the desire for strengthening school education, but I cannot agree with the largely borrowed views of the Hon'ble Babu Mohendra Nath Ray that a large percentage of our college students are unfit for studies, because of their deficiency in English. There may have been a falling off according to the recently enunciated exacting standard, and if possible that should no doubt be remedied. But considering the materials and resources with which we work and considering the great difficulty of the language the wonder is that our students get on as well and not a good deal worse. I deny that the University has allowed, or will allow, through its portals unworthy candidates; and however much improvement may be needed—and there is always scope for improvement everywhere—questionable suggestions like those just referred to are not very helpful in bringing about improvement.

Duplication of higher medical teaching has long been a recognized necessity, and I congratulate your Excellency on the arrangements that by your tact and sympathy you have been able to arrive at with the Albert Victor Hospital authorities to which reference was made this morning in connection with the Medical Bill. We regret, however, to find no definite provision has been made for financing it in the way agreed upon. Without prompt and material aid the teaching establishment connected with the hospital will have promptly to shut down the moment the Medical Bill comes into force and with such closure the hospital also will suffer. A pronouncement on this important question would be greatly welcomed.

The Damoodar Floods.

One of our colleagues, the Hon'ble Maulvi Mazharul Anwar Chaudhuri, recently drew attention to the needs of permanent relief in the Damodar areas against future floods. We were again promised careful consideration and sympathetic treatment of the situation. While schemes are being framed on a large and comprehensive scale, there is no reason why minor schemes not involving any large outlays should not be undertaken and Budget provision made therefor. For example, by co-operating with the Bengal-Nagpur Railway in regard to their proposed Bistupur Chord, and by cutting relieving canals joining neighbouring channels that cannot carry off the overflow water, some tangible relief could be afforded. The Bengal-Nagpur Railway are just having a careful survey made of a part of the affected tracts through which their Chord is proposed to pass; and if the Government will please co-operate with the Railway Administration by cutting small canals in the neighbourhood, the Chord can pass through convenient points which will be a great public good in many ways. If the entire scheme that has yet to be determined upon, and that will probably cost prohibitive sums, cannot be undertaken long, co-operative measures with the Railway Company ought not to be deferred and provision for it ought to be made. This I urge by way of meeting the objections anticipated by the Maulvi Mazharul Anwar Chaudhuri. These relieving canals must be taken in hand at once.

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Excise.

Budget resolutions and other resolutions are not generally carried in this Council when emanating from non-official members. Nor is it likely that such a general result will be achieved in the near future, though there has been now and again a notable exception. But Hon'ble Members have the satisfaction of realizing that in some instances, at all events it is possible to have reasonable non-official views of things accepted by the Government in slow degrees if they are pressed on its attention with moderation and reasonable insistence. Such achievements, slight as they are, are helpful in encouraging Hon'ble Members to press their views of things from year to year, and if they come to be accepted slowly and gradually after years of insistence, there is some occasion for rejoicing and some consolation.

One such matter is the improvement in the Excise policy of the Government regarding which friends of Temperance in this Council and other Councils of the country, Imperial and local, have for years past been working hard. Their hitherto thankless tasks are beginning to be rewarded with recognition and excellent results may be expected in the near future. We are hoping that substantial concessions to public opinion will now be possible. There are distinct indications of personal sympathy with our aims and aspirations on the part of those in authority—indications that Government are not quite comfortable about their present Excise policy. We shall find, we hope, that the Government will now gradually modify some of the less defensible features of the administration. With one of the recognized and honoured Temperance leaders as Under-Secretary of State for India, the forward work of your Excellency's Government, as well as the Imperial Government, ought to be comparatively easy. Even with facilities like these reform measures must, however, be slow and cautious, and he would be an intemperate man of temperance indeed who would not recognize and respect this contingency.

In regard to Excise, I desire to congratulate my friend the Commissioner of that Department, for the continued fecundity of the bird of prey that lays this golden egg for Government, almost in spite of it. It is rather a startling fact set forth on page 26 of the Budget that, while the actual revenue obtained for Excise in 1910-11 was about 63 lakhs, the Budget estimate for 1914-15 is 158 lakhs or nearly 100 lakhs to the good. The revised estimate for the current year is the high figure of 152 lakhs due to higher license-fees and increased duty, and partly to increased efficiency on the part of the improved service. The budgeted increase of 6 lakhs for 1914-15 is regarded as a safe anticipation as, owing to the higher duty, the receipts from the consumption of liquor may be checked, and the department has realized the need of checking the consumption of opium and *charas*. It must be noted, however, that an increase in expenditure for the same period is budgeted for 2½ lakhs so that the department anticipates an increased revenue of 8½ lakhs upon its administration of excise for the period under review. Since the debate on the Financial Statement last year, the country has had the privilege of a valuable and frank pronouncement by His Excellency the Viceroy himself on the whole subject of Excise Administration. I may be allowed to touch on one or two points suggested by the increase of revenue under Excise now under your discussion. It was satisfactory to the deputation that attended on the Viceroy to hear his first pronouncement that "the Government of India, the Local Governments and Administrations and their officials are unanimous with Temperance workers in desiring to promote the cause of Temperance in this country by all means within their power." And it must be acknowledged that your Lordship and the officials in Bengal controlling this department have shown the justice of this claim in a way that will be a model for the other Provincial Governments throughout the Empire. The establishment of licensing Boards in Calcutta, Howrah and Bally has given signal proof of the sympathy of the Administration of this province with Temperance views on this special aspect of administration, and I desire to take this early opportunity of voicing the sincere gratitude of

those I may be taken to represent, for making this "interesting experiment," which, if successful, His Excellency tells us, may be extended to other large towns also. This also casts heavy responsibilities on Temperance workers and the general public, which must not be ignored.

The increase of revenue anticipated for 1914-15 of 6 lakhs will be regarded by many as a further indication that the policy of Government fosters the drink and drug habit. His Excellency pointed out, however, that figures of revenue expansion do not necessarily imply increased consumption, and that any interest Government may have in revenue does not imply that the moral and social aspects of the traffic are overlooked. If this is so, we shall expect the department to give the closest attention to the prevention of any undue expansion of consumption, and trust that it may see its way to do so along the lines of reform on which His Excellency laid more or less stress. Among those I may mention the free use of representative advisory committees with a policy that looks to a further development of local control, the careful investigation of the sites of licensed premises, so that undesirable sites may be gradually abandoned, and closer adherence given to the departmental rules on the subject, a further restriction in hours of sale, the supply of counter-attractions to drinking and drug-taking, the introduction of Temperance teaching of a more definite character in the school books used in schools and colleges, and securing, so far as is possible, more accurate statistical information on the whole question of the consumption of liquor and drugs. The spread of the cocaine habit is causing alarm to the people and the Government, and though much has been done to stop it the evil grows rampant. The question has recently engaged the attention of the Imperial Government, and it is to be hoped that drastic but effective methods will soon be invoked. It is destroying the manhood of the country more than the drink habit has done.

The policy of excise administration is still engaging the attention of the Secretary of State, and we may anticipate a critical survey of the various intricate problems now engaging the attention of all administrations in this Empire. Temperance workers will be satisfied so long as they have evidence that the administration, in the words of His Excellency the Viceroy, "is not relaxing their steady policy of watchfulness and restriction based on practical expedients for checking excessive consumption."

The Provincial Judicial Service.

Another direction in which insistent endeavours on our part in the Council for the past few years have borne some fruit is partial improvement in the Provincial Judicial Service. A sum of Rs. 50,000 was set apart last year for the reorganization of the munsif's branch of the Provincial Judicial Service. The details of the scheme were communicated to the officers concerned in December last, after the Secretary of State's sanction had been received.

I find that Rs. 21,000 has been set apart for raising the pay of the last grade of munsifs. Under the recent reorganization the number of officers in the last grade is 35, and if the pay of each officer in that grade be increased by Rs. 50 per mensem, the total increased cost comes up to Rs. 21,000 per annum. I have been pressing for this much-needed reform from my place in the Council ever since 1908, and I congratulate and thank the Government on their decision. Owing, however, to the very heavy officiating list, the real benefit to the officers concerned is not as great as it appears. The officiating period, with long intervals of enforced idleness, is now prolonged to three years and more, and confirmation on Rs. 250 is therefore a bare act of justice. In view of the initial pay in the other Provincial Services, the abolition of the grade of Rs. 200 in the Provincial Judicial Service is more the recognition of a principle than any substantial gain to the Service. I trust this will make the Service still more popular and effective. The University has just proposed that the age of admission to the services may be raised, so that the better class of graduates and the better class of

junior practitioners may be drawn. But I must sound a note of warning. Under the recent scheme, the number of munsifs in the grade of Rs. 250 has been increased by 4 and fixed at 70. If the number in the lowest grade be further absorbed in this grade, the total number in the new last grade on Rs. 250 will be (70 + 35 =) 105. The total number of munsifs in the Presidency is 245. Nearly half the total strength of the cadre will therefore be in the lowest grade. This is surely an impossible arrangement, and is sure to create very grave discontent in the near future, when the serious block to promotion will begin to be felt. Further reorganization on altogether different lines will therefore now be necessary, of which I have worked out the details. The time-limit of the debate forbids my going into these details. But I shall be glad to send in to the Hon'ble Member in charge for consideration.

The other point which calls for notice is the appointment of a new officer to be styled the Inspector of Judicial Offices on a salary of Rs. 18,000 per annum. If the post be meant for a member of the Provincial Service—as is not unlikely, so far as may be judged from the salary—then it would be a welcome addition to the very few prize posts held by the Service. The Government should be congratulated on bestowing this post on the Provincial Judicial Service. If however it is meant for an officer of the Civil Service, I do not think it should be popular with the Provincial officers; nor will it draw the right class of officers from the Civil Service, in which capable men soon find rapid advance in other walks. In any case, the precise nature of this officer's duties, the functions he will be called upon to discharge, the authority at whose suggestion this appointment has been created, should be made known."

The Hon'ble MAULVI MUSHARRAF HUSAIN said :—

"My Lord, I beg, on the occasion of the discussion of the Budget for the year 1914-15, to pass a few remarks on topics which are engrossing public attention.

District Administration.

The most important of these is District Administration, which includes various subjects touching the interest of the people at large. The centre of the whole administration is the District Magistrate and Collector, whom the people regard as being virtually the Local Agent of Government. When the administration was organized at the commencement of British rule, the whole attention of the organizers was directed towards the safety of life and property of the people and to the accurate collection of land-revenue and other taxes, and the District Magistrates were required to look to these two principal objects. During the last century and a half of well-managed and sympathetic British rule these objects have been attained, though here and there new elements of disturbances appear which are confined within the microscopic minority of the people of the Presidency. The people are now disposed to regard the achievements of British rule in India as their natural birth-right, and they look to Government for something more in matters of general improvement of the country. The people now think that the District Magistrate whom they regard as the real representative of Government in the district, should primarily look to education, sanitation, commerce and other subjects affecting their mental, moral and physical welfare. Circumstanced as the District Magistrates are at present, they have to dispose of many trifling matters which could, I submit, be better done by their subodinates. My Lord, as the time allowed for this speech is very short and as I will have to deal with other subjects also, I would suggest shortly that the whole District Administration should now be reorganized on such lines as the present circumstances warrant, and that the District Magistrate should be relieved of the disposal of many matters of a routine nature, which can conveniently be done by his subordinates and of the scrutiny of accounts which may, I submit, be left partly to his subordinates

and partly to auditors who should be appointed for the purpose, and that he should confine his whole attention to general improvement of the district in matters of education, sanitation, communications, commerce and kindred subjects.

Management of Government Estates.

My Lord, your Excellency has come to know by this time by official enquiry and conversation with non-officials that the people are suffering much from a lack of pasture-land for their cattle in this Presidency. In reply to some interpellations your Excellency's Government were pleased to declare that sufficient pasture-land would be reserved in Government Estates. I beg to remind your Excellency's Government of this promise and to request that detailed descriptions of the lands reserved for grazing purposes in the various Government Estates should be speedily notified in the local official Gazette. My Lord, another place where cattle may graze is Reserved Forests. I would remark with regret that, during the last two years or so, the grazing of cattle in Reserved Forests has been practically prohibited by the imposition of increased rates of fees.

Excise.

I beg to congratulate the Government for devising a scheme for the successful reduction of the consumption of liquor and for the increase of revenue under this head. At the same time I beg to request Government to see that liquor is manufactured in Bengal to some extent, so that the people of Bengal may derive some profit from its manufacture.

Forests.

In discussing the management of Forests, my Lord, I am confining my remarks to the Jalpaiguri forests alone. The beds of the rivers, on one or both banks of which there is a reserved forest, are included within the Reserved Forest. These rivers practically remain dry during the summer and cold weather, a very small channel being left for the passage of water. The seeds of trees carried by rain-water are deposited in the bed of the river and are allowed to germinate in the river-bed which remains dry for practically eight months in the year and seedlings come out and grow into trees in a short time. These trees act as natural spurs and cause the accumulation of silt in the channels and necessitate the shifting of the river-beds so as to make room for the passage of water, which causes considerable loss to the neighbouring property. My Lord, this is a very serious subject to which I beg to draw your Excellency's attention. The river-beds should, I submit, be cleared of all trees and they should not form parts of Reserved Forests at all; but should form ordinary pasture-lands not subject to the strict and hard rules of the Forest Department. In this connection I beg to remark that, unfortunately, we have no experts to advise us as to the best method of training these rivers, and I think an expert should be appointed direct from England or America to study this intricate subject on the spot and to advise the Government as to the best way of saving the property from the vagaries of hill currents.

Police.

My Lord, I would, at the risk of criticism, suggest that the police force should be increased and that more police-stations, should be established at suitable places to check the village touts—a class which has sprung out of easy accessibility to District and Subdivisional head-quarters by improved railway communications, and who are increasing the number of litigations and thereby impoverishing the people at large.

Maulvi Musharraf Husain.

Education.

In discussing the subject of education, my Lord, I shall dwell chiefly upon the education of the Muhammadan community. Everybody (both officials and non-officials, and Hindus and Muhammadans) is seriously considering what steps should be taken for the spread of liberal education among the Muhammadans who are admittedly very backward in this respect. Some people think that education will spread among them if proper hostel arrangements be made for them with existing institutions. My Lord, I regret I cannot wholly agree with this view. Residence in a hostel means more expenditure than that incurred when a boy lives with his family. The Muhammadans are admittedly poorer than the other communities and, as such, most of them are not competent to defray the expenses incurred by living in hostels. In reply to an interpellation I made in this Council last year I was grieved to learn that out of about 500 high English schools only five were managed by Muhammadans. My Lord, it makes a sympathetic man almost inclined to shed tears at this sad state of the Muhammadan community. This clearly proves, my Lord, that the present high English schools are not situated in centres of Muhammadan population, and it is for this reason and this reason only that the Muhammadans are so very backward in point of English education. I have been cherishing this idea for a very long time and, as an experimental measure, I have established a high English school in a village of the district of Tippera where the population is practically a Muhammadan one, and I am glad to announce that out of 325 boys more than 275 boys are Muhammadans, and the best boys are almost all Muhammadans. This experiment emboldens me to suggest to the Government that, to spread English education among Muhammadans, the Government should encourage the establishment of middle English and high English schools in centres of Muhammadan population. I sincerely believe that the thorny problem of spreading decent English education amongst the Muhammadans will be solved by bringing education to the homes of the people, and not by carrying away boys from their family and collecting them in a town which is the centre of all allurements. Of course by suggesting this course I will not say that some good will not be done if hostels are given to Muhammadans in towns.

Hostels in Calcutta.

I should be failing in my duty if I did not speak on the necessity of providing a hostel somewhere near College Square, where almost all the colleges are situated. The short time allotted to me does not allow me to discuss at length the necessity of this, but I believe it is now admitted by everybody interested in education that such a hostel is necessary.

Admissions in Schools and Colleges.

Many Muhammadan students are refused admission in schools and colleges for want of accommodation, and I would ask the Government to devise some means to remedy this.

Medical.

My Lord, since your Excellency's advent to this Presidency, your Excellency has been instrumental in helping to preserve the lives of the village people from disease and death by generously providing handsome grants for village sanitation and water-supply. This will no doubt be the means of eradicating a great deal of diseases in the future. But, my Lord, at present a great number of people die in villages from cholera and small-pox. The number of doctors in villages being small and the condition of the sufferers being poor, the people suffering from these diseases practically die from want of medical aid and medicine. To remedy this state

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of affairs each district should, I submit, be provided with doctors whose duty would be to visit villages affected by cholera and small-pox and to distribute medicine amongst the sufferers.

Agriculture.

Since agriculture is the principal means of livelihood in Bengal, the agriculturists should be allowed to avail themselves of the improved system of cultivation and manuring. This they can do if experimental farms are established close to them. The Government, admitting this principle, has established experimental farms in various places; but the country being a large one the number of such farms is not sufficient. I would, therefore, impress upon the Government the necessity of increasing the number of such farms.

Superannuation.

My Lord, the large increase in expenditure under this head from Rs. 26,22,000 in 1911-12 to Rs. 32,31,000 in 1914-15 leaves room for discussion. In saying so, my Lord, I do not wish to admit that deserving persons should not get their pensions. What I want to suggest is that those who are competent to serve the Government should not be allowed to retire to enjoy their pensions and be a burden upon the Public Exchequer while they are yet able to do their work. This matter should be thoroughly gone into, and schemes should be formed to see that the tax-payers should not suffer by the grant of pensions to those who are still capable of service.

Although I am remarking against this increase, I think it my duty to impress upon your Excellency's Government the injustice that is being done to the old Sub-Registrars by the present pension rules. When they were appointed they were under the belief that their services would be retained for life. By the present pension rules, the justice of which is questioned, the pensionable services of these Sub-Registrars have been counted from the date of the reorganization of the department which, I understand, took place only eight years ago, and not from the date of appointment. It is very curious that by this rule these Sub-Registrars, who used to get from Rs. 75 to Rs. 250, will have to be satisfied with a nominal pension of Rs. 10 to Rs. 50. After serving the Government for the whole of their life it is strange that these officers are let off without any decent means of subsistence. My Lord, I hope your Excellency's kind heart will feel for these officers and that your Excellency's Government will do something to ameliorate their condition.

Communications.

I beg to offer my sincere thanks to your Excellency's Government for the suitable provision that has been made in this year's Budget for the improvement of the Dooars roads. My Lord, we wanted a thorough metalled road from Tetulia to Kumargram for the improvement of the whole district. This was the opinion of a representative meeting of both planting and other interests at Jalpaiguri. I hope your Excellency's Government will accept the opinion of the people and spend the money accordingly."

The Hon'ble BABU MAHENDRA NATH RAY said :—

Sanitation.

"My Lord, with a closing balance of 28 lakhs of rupees, it would serve no useful purpose to make any suggestions for increased expenditure under any of the heads of the Budget for 1914-15. But I beg with your Lordship's leave to make some remarks in connection with some of the topics regarding sanitation and education—matters which are of considerable importance and in respect of which I have had to do something in connection with

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my duties as a person connected with the various local bodies in the mufassal and a person connected with the Calcutta University. I find, my Lord, under the head of sanitation, that is, "Medical," a provision of nearly 31 lakhs of rupees has been made for the year, including a lump sum of non-recurring expenditure of over 18 lakhs and a lump grant of recurring expenditure of over 9 lakhs. These figures are very satisfactory. But one has got to note with sorrow that there was a saving in the year just over, out of the allotment under this head, of nearly 10 lakhs of rupees. This means that although ample provision is being made for improvements of sanitation at least in recent years, for some reason or other, the object aimed at is not fully gained, the sums allotted are not being utilized. I have no right to speak generally in connection with the various allotments made under the head of sanitation, but I can speak with some knowledge of the grants made to the municipalities in Bengal under this head. With regard to the surrender of the income from the public works cess made to the District Boards, it is premature now to speak, because unless and until the Cess Act has been amended it is not possible to compel the District Boards to spend the money out of the amounts so surrendered on sanitary improvements. But with regard to the allotments specially made for the improvement of the sanitation in municipalities, the difficulty which the suburban municipalities felt—of course the municipality which I have the honour to represent felt no difficulty as they knew how to utilize the money—is this. An allotment is made in the Budget for some important sanitary project; half the year is over; the persons who are responsible for seeing the proper application of the money commence making their report, and at the end of the year either a small proportion of the allotment has been spent or none at all. Similar difficulties are felt in connection with the expenditure of sums allotted for the sanitation in connection with the District Boards. The opinion which I have formed from an examination of these huge surpluses from year to year is this, that unless and until the present Sanitary Board is put on a more satisfactory basis and unless and until that Board can command the services of a larger number of experts in different departments, it can never cope with the work that these large sums must from year to year call forth. Take the case of the scheme for water-supply in the rural areas or take the case of the drainage scheme in the suburban municipalities. No doubt the Sanitary Board exercises a general control, prepares the scheme for these municipalities and attempts to the best of their power to push on with the work. The Sanitary Board has at its command a very few experts, and very few people who can really go through the schemes and who can put pressure so as to push the schemes through. The reconstitution of the Sanitary Board upon a more enlarged basis, with, say, a dozen experts, each in one subject, with an office allotted to each, will help no doubt not only in the framing of the schemes required for the several suburban areas, but will also ensure that the works are properly pushed through. There is no use relying upon the overseers of the mufassal municipalities with Rs. 100 a month, nor with a District Board Engineer on Rs. 400 a month, with a small establishment. It is no use asking them to prepare a scheme and to see through the working out of the scheme and to push on with the work. The solution that I can suggest for the consideration of the Government is, as I have already submitted, the reconstitution of the Sanitary Board on a really efficient and enlarged basis. I don't expect any political cry raised upon the ground that these local authorities should be left to themselves and should not be hampered in working out the details of sanitary measures. Speaking for myself and the people with whom I have worked, such assistance from the Sanitary Board and such direction from the Sanitary Board which I have pointed out will be welcomed, and will not be resented as an invasion on the principle of local self-government.

Secondary Education.

The second subject upon which I desire to invite the attention of your Lordship's Government is the allotment on secondary education. I

Rai Hari Mohan Chandra, Bahadur.

find from the figures that the total allotment on grants-in-aid for the year has been fixed at 16 lakhs of rupees ; compare that with Rs. 22,80,000 which formed the figures of the revised estimates of the year just over, including, of course, the grants to schools under private management. There is, however, another sum : I find a lump provision for secondary education. The figures for the year just over have been Rs. 1,96,000 and the figures for the present year Rs. 1,28,000. While I could find no objection with regard to the allotment made under the head of Sanitation, because the allotment appears to be adequate, with regard to the allotment under the head of Education, I am bound to say that they are not sufficient. In the inadequacy of this allotment I believe the Government have a responsibility which cannot be lightly dismissed. I beg it to be understood that the remarks which I have got to make do not refer to allotments on education generally, but only on the particular class of education, which is known as secondary education, that is on education in schools which prepare for the Matriculation examination of the Calcutta University. Much has been said in recent times about the lowering of standards of the examinations of the Calcutta University and the harmful consequences, which the lowering of the standards cause, and are likely to cause in the future. Whatever my private views on the matter may be, it is not desirable that one should commit himself publicly, but there is one thing which I have no doubt most of us will feel and that is that of the very large number of students who come up from the mufassal schools and present themselves at the Matriculation examination, a considerable percentage are quite unfit to carry on their studies in the University. What is the reason for this? Is it because the Bengali Hindus and Muhammadans are really intellectually so inferior that this is the case? I submit not. What I have found is that gentlemen connected with what are called Matriculation or high English schools in the mufassal have found that the authorities of these schools labour under very great difficulties. The total fee receipts in most cases we have found to be about Rs. 300 a month, and having regard to the Government grants (the Hon'ble Mr. Hornell very rarely gives these schools more than Rs. 50, Rs. 60 or Rs. 70 a month), the whole teaching staff, including grants to libraries and other things, have to be provided within the limited sum of Rs. 350 generally. It is found necessary therefore to entertain for the posts of Head Masters and superior teachers gentlemen who may be quite good men for the degrees that they have got, but who are not perhaps quite competent to be at the head of Matriculation or high English schools. The reason is that the school authorities cannot pay more than Rs. 50 to Rs. 70 to a Head Master. The only possible solution of the difficulty is for the Government to come in and to make substantial grants—not Rs. 50, Rs. 60 or Rs. 70—but at least Rs. 200 a month for schools deserving of public support. Well, this may appear to be an ideal, for if you proceed to do so, you will have to augment the grant for secondary schools by nearly three or four times the present allotment. But in the interests of sound education and in the interests of proper University standards, it is absolutely necessary that this money should be forthcoming. If you do not provide the money, these Matriculation schools will go on sending up a large number of students. The University authorities will, I hope my friend the Hon'ble Dr. Sarbadhikari will excuse me for saying so, not find it easy to reject 80 per cent. of the students that come up for the Matriculation examination ; so a large number of students must begin University studies not perhaps to the interests of sound education."

The Hon'ble RAI HARI MOHAN CHANDRA BAHADUR said :—

Lowis Jubilee Sanitarium.

"My Lord, I congratulate your Excellency's Government on the very prosperous Budget presented to the Council, and, on behalf of the Committee of the Lowis Jubilee Sanitarium, Darjeeling, thank your Excellency's Government for the provision very kindly made for a grant to that Institution which is in need of help.

Babu Upendra Lal Ray.

Enlargement of the Sanitary Board.

I tender my respectful thanks to your Excellency's Government for having enlarged the Sanitary Board by adding to it a Municipal and a District Board Member and a representative of the European community. I now submit that the Sanitary Board may be further widened and strengthened by the inclusion in it of a representative of the landholders—a body who are deeply interested in, and whose help is needed in various ways for, the sanitary improvement and medical relief of the country, and by the inclusion of a gentleman from the middle class who is a non-official and not a Member of your Excellency's Council, but who has actual experience of the country and who is in constant touch with the people in the rural areas.

Sanitation.

It is a pity that, as appears from paragraph 51, page 20 of the Budget, so much as 10 lakhs of rupees of the grant under the head of Sanitation was not utilized during the year 1913-14. I believe this state of things will continue unless and until the Sanitary Board is vested with powers to supervise effectually the workings of the District Boards and Municipalities in matters of sanitation and medical relief and to compel effectual steps to be taken to utilize the grant which your Excellency's Government make for the purpose. I may be permitted to add here that the physical features and consequent necessities of East and West Bengal are not similar. Canals, which are necessary for economic improvement and sanitation, are not so much required in East as in West Bengal. Such works cannot be undertaken by District Boards and, therefore, they should be taken in hand by the Public Works Department of the Government.

Pasteur Institute for Bengal.

Another matter which suggests itself to me is that Bengal should have a Pasteur Institute of her own for the benefit of her people, and I submit the matter for the consideration of your Excellency's Government.

Enhancement of the pay of the lower grade of Ministerial Officers.

And once again I request your Excellency's Government to consider whether the time has not come when the pay of the lower grade ministerial officers should be enhanced on account of the high prices of food-grains. In order to place before your Excellency's Government figures to show the average pay of each ministerial officer per head of his dependants, I attempted to collect the required statistics, but the ministerial officers whom I asked to let me have the statistics were unwilling to comply with my request without Government orders. If Government would permit the ministerial officers concerned to let me have the statistics, I could collate them and submit them to Government and then the condition of the officers concerned would be fully realized."

The Hon'ble BABU UPENDRA LAL RAY said :—

Education.

"My Lord, the work of the Council has been considerably shortened this year by the absence of resolutions on the Revised Financial Statement, with the exception of the three moved by the Hon'ble Maharaja Ranajit Sinha of Nashipur on the 13th of March last. The consideration of those resolutions did not take up much of your Excellency's time. The representatives of Government in charge of the various departments have considered their own subjects very carefully, and it is to be hoped that the amounts earmarked for specific purposes will be utilized and will not be allowed to lapse during the year and thus lose their respective places in the budget for the following year.

Babu Upendra Lal Ray.

As an instance, I quote the proposal for the provincialization of the Victoria Technical School at Chittagong. This was provided for in the current year's Budget, and the Hon'ble Mr. Küchler, the then Director of Public Instruction, in his speech on the Budget last year, observed as follows :—

> I may mention here, in the first place, that the policy of provincializing technical institutes is being steadily carried out by Government and that at no distant date we hope that a very large number of technical institutes throughout the whole province will be brought under provincial management.

I do not know whether this scheme has been shelved or whether it is in contemplation to utilize a portion of the grant under the heading of Education for this specific purpose. The necessity for devoting a portion of the grant to this branch of education cannot be overrated, and the growing needs of the country certainly demand that more elaborate industrial and technical schools should be established in all parts of the province. The late Government of Eastern Bengal and Assam held a representative conference at Dacca under the presidency of the Hon'ble Mr. Nathan, whose vast knowledge of these matters is beyond question.

Several recommendations were made, but it is not known whether they have been forgotten or whether they have been put aside in consequence of the territorial redistribution. If the recommendations have been partially carried out—and I am not aware whether this has been done—I would venture to suggest that the rest may be taken in hand after careful consideration by your Excellency's Government. Who amongst us is not aware that a large number of successful candidates at the University examinations from year to year are left out of employment, which they seek so very earnestly and are in consequence plunged into misery and distress? Suggestions have often been made that our youths should take to industrial and commercial pursuits, but unless adequate facilities are afforded for their education on those lines their struggle for existence will become keener and the bitter cries of the unemployed for bread will not be hushed into silence—the more so, because, although living is becoming dearer and dearer every day, the pay of the ministerial officers, who represent the bulk of the middle-class population, has been only slightly increased. A glance at the Budget will show that many well-paid appointments have been, and will also be, created. It is true that the necessity for such appointments does exist; but at the same time it is clear that the amount required for one such post in any particular department sometimes exceeds the aggregate amount paid to the ministerial and the menial staff of that department. I notice with pleasure that a sum of Rs. 43,000 has been provided for a new survey school at Comilla. This is undoubtedly a move in the right direction. Suggestions have from time to time been made for the affiliation of the Chittagong College in certain subjects which are not taught there at present. The matter was represented to Your Excellency in the addresses of several local public bodies and was also personally laid before the Hon'ble Messrs. Lyon and Hornell during their visits to Chittagong. It is not known whether this has been sanctioned and will come under the heading of Education. Another fact that strikes me as curious is that no amount has been allotted for the construction of quarters for the Principal of this College, although a sum of Rs. 25,165 was set apart in the Budget for the current year for this purpose. This item does not, I regret to observe, find a place in the Budget under discussion for reasons unknown. The answer to my question on this subject yesterday shews that the matter is under the consideration of Your Excellency's Government, and it is hoped that some decision would be arrived at at an early date.

The needs for the wider dissemination of higher education, as well as the congestion at the Calcutta colleges, justify the improvement of many mufassal colleges and the raising of the status thereof and also the formation of new first-grade colleges in some district head-quarters. This is not possible unless the Government are liberal in their contributions. The

Babu Upendra Lal Ray.

Comilla College is in need of such assistance and the public have been anxiously expecting it. The pay and allowances of the Inspecting staff seem to swallow up a large portion of the allotments for education, leaving an insignificant amount for distribution amongst the ministerial officers of the Education Department which, as I have already observed, is so badly in need of grants.

Sanitation and Water-supply.

My Lord, the people of this Presidency are deeply grateful to Your Excellency for the keen and sympathetic interest which you have been taking in the question of sanitation and water-supply. The Municipality of Chittagong have been pushing through the scheme of filtered water-supply for which they have got a very liberal and handsome donation of Rs. 2,00,000 from Your Excellency's Government—a bounty really in excess of their expectations—for which they are deeply thankful to Your Excellency. The scheme, when completed, will bear eloquent testimony to Your Excellency's solicitude for the welfare of the inhabitants committed to your fostering care. I also take this opportunity to convey to Your Excellency the thanks of the Municipality for the provision of the sum of Rs. 20,000 for sanitary improvements in the town of Chittagong—a grant which they have been enjoying for about five years now and without which it would not have been possible for them to meet their requirements in this direction It is fervently hoped that the grant will be continued from year to year, since the result has been very satisfactory, inasmuch as malaria has practically been stamped out of the town. It is gratifying to note that other municipalities have also been shaking off their indifference and apathy in these matters, and some of them have already prepared rough schemes and forwarded them to the Sanitary Board for sanction. The Chandpur Municipality has sent such a scheme which, when thrashed out by the Sanitary Board, will, it is hoped, receive the same favourable consideration in Your Excellency's hands as the others have received. The problem of water-supply in the rural areas is a very difficult one to solve, and in that direction also I notice with pleasure that the public have been waking up as will appear from the numerous applications which are pouring in for the re-excavation of existing tanks, and I am glad that these applications are being treated by the District Boards with such sympathy as they deserve. It is an accepted theory that in rural areas in Bengal, tanks, and not wells, constitute the principal source of water-supply. The strict *parda* system prevalent in Hindu and Musalman societies requires that there should be several tanks in every village from which the people may fetch water for domestic and culinary purposes, as it is not possible for the average villager to employ servants. I confess that it is not possible for the Government to undertake the work of excavating tanks in the villages as it involves an enormous outlay.

The people themselves should be attracted to it, and this can be done by the Government alone and not by any one else, for the following reasons: There are villages without number where there already exist numerous tanks owned by several co-sharers. These tanks are not taken care of when the co-sharers separate—to say nothing of tanks belonging to different families. It often happens that the poor co-sharer cannot join with his well-to-do partner in undertaking the work of improving the tank. Generally there is resistance and obstruction offered by one or more of such co-sharers when some others come forward to re-excavate the joint tank. If, therefore, the chances of offering such resistance are removed without in any way affecting the proprietary rights of the unwilling partners and some protection for the money spent is afforded by Government by legislation, many of the existing tanks will, within the next few years, be restored to their former condition or improved considerably by the owners themselves without any pecuniary assistance from the Government. This can be done by allowing such of the co-sharers as may be willing to carry on the work of excavation the exclusive right of fishing in the tank for such a period as

might be deemed sufficient to cover the expenses incurred for excavation. The longer the period of enjoyment of this fishery right the stronger will be the attraction and incentive to the co-sharers to excavate the tank. The right of exclusive fishery in a tank is in many places a valuable right. If this suggestion commends itself to Your Excellency's acceptance, a committee may be appointed to consider the question in detail, and if thought fit legislation may then be undertaken to carry out the recommendations of the committee.

Port of Chittagong.

My Lord, I wish to say a few words about the Port of Chittagong. Many persons often make the observation that this port is a rival of the Port of Calcutta. If the trade statistics of the two ports are compared, it will appear at a glance that this observation is wholly unfounded and unjustifiable, as the trade of the Port of Chittagong is quite insignificant compared with that of the Port of Calcutta. Chittagong can very properly be described as the sister port of Calcutta. The congestion of traffic at Calcutta is a source of grave anxiety to those interested in its development; but at Chittagong considerable tracts of land below the jetties and on the foreshore have been acquired by the Port Trust, which merchants can lease on very suitable terms for the construction of mills and warehouses. A line of railway has also been laid along the river bank affording both river and rail communication for trade of every description. The port is situated at a distance of only nine miles from the Bay of Bengal and is within easy reach of big sea-going vessels. If the Assam-Bengal Railway, which feeds the port, were supplied with suitable branches and connections, Chittagong would be the only and the natural port for a tract of country measuring about 80,000 square miles and containing a population of about nineteen millions. The condition of the river requires attention, and the necessity for a second dredger is now being very keenly felt. It is only fair that from her natural situation Chittagong should be given a share of consideration and not be made to depend upon on the overflow traffic of Calcutta, where further developments involve enormous expenditure of money. My Lord, I do not grudge any such expenditure for the senior port, but only press the claims of her sister port. I fail to understand the apprehensions of some of the traders of Calcutta who have opposed any demands for improved facilities of communication and the opening up of new railway lines connecting with the Assam-Bengal Railway. It is admitted on all sides that the existing accommodation for trade at Calcutta cannot cope with the growing needs of the port. What, therefore, My Lord, can be the harm in allowing it to go to Chittagong from where it can be distributed to the surrounding tracts of land at much less expense?

Erosion of the Town of Noakhali.

There are wild rumours in circulation about the fate of the town of Noakhali which is in danger of being washed away by the Megna river. The proposal for the transfer of the head-quarters of the district has caused alarm in the minds of the public, especially in the mercantile community who generally find it difficult to acquire suitable sites for their business premises. If the cost of protecting the town from erosion is prohibitive, the anxieties of the people may be removed by an announcement that the head-quarters will be shifted. If for any reasons the place where it is proposed to build the new town cannot be declared at present, the intention to do so may simply be announced so that persons anxious to build more houses in the present town may await the final decision of Your Excellency's Government in the matter and thus save large amounts of money which would otherwise be wasted.

Babu Prasanna Kumar Ray.

The Grand Trunk Canal Project.

The Grand Trunk Canal Project is likely to mature within a measurable distance of time. Although it cannot be denied that such a canal is necessary, not only from a sanitary point of view but also in the interests of trade, questions of the site for the outfall and the alignment have given rise to some controversy. In this connection I beg to invite Your Excellency's attention to the suggestions which have been put forward by the Committee of the Bengal Mahajan Sabha. It has been urged that the alignment proposed by Mr. O. C. Lees with Badartola as the site for the outfall will make the canal longer by eight miles and will entail a far heavier outlay. The Committee of the Mahajan Sabha have made a sensible suggestion, which I venture to think, will be fully investigated and considered, and if such investigation shows that the route proposed by them with the outfall at either Chitpur or Cossipore will be less expensive, more quickly completed and considerably shorter in length, I see no reason why the suggestion should not be recommended. The Mahajan Sabha suggest that the route should follow the existing new cut and the Bhangor canal from Kulti, and that the outfall should at all events be on the northern side of the Howrah Bridge, either at Chitpur or Cossipore. There is no denying the fact that the majority of the Jute Mills are on the Chitpur side, and that it is necessary and desirable that the sea and river-borne traffic should be demarcated. I would therefore invite Your Excellency's attention to the suggestion put forward in this connection, which I have no hesitation in saying fully deserves a thorough investigation.

Munsifs.

My Lord, I will conclude my speech with only a few words about the heading of "Civil and Sessions Court—Munsifs." In introducing the Budget last year, the Hon'ble Nawab Syed Shams-ul-Huda remarked :—

"Under the head 'Civil and Sessions Court—Munsifs', an additional provision of Rs. 50,000 has been made for the regrading of munsifs and of Rs. 32,000 for additional munsifs. The regrading is intended to raise the average stipends of the munsifs in the Bengal service to a level with that of Bihar and Orissa. This will to a certain extent remove the grievances of a very deserving body of public servants, who have contributed so much to the efficiency of the judicial administration in the province."

The Hon'ble Sir William Duke during the discussion of the Budget also remarked as follows : "It was stated at the same time (referring to the reply given on the 5th of March, 1913) that the question of the pay of the lowest grade of munsifs would be taken up when the orders of the Government of India about the reorganization have been received." I find with pleasure that the pledge has been fulfilled, and that the Secretary of State for India in Council has been pleased to sanction the reorganization of the Provincial Judicial Service and the regrading of munsifs at a total cost of Rs 68,400 per annum, which has been provided for. It is not clear whether sanction has been obtained for raising the pay of the lowest grade of munsifs, for which a sum of Rs. 21,000 has been budgeted under the general heading of "Obligatory Schemes." That this should be done at no distant date admits of no doubt, and the relief so anxiously sought for by the lowest grade of munsifs should be forthcoming as early as practicable."

The Hon'ble BABU PRASANNA KUMAR RAY said :—

General Remarks.

"My Lord, The Hon'ble Member in charge of Finance is to be congratulated on the sound and excellent budget presented to us this year. The statement consists as usual of three parts—the actuals for one year, the revised estimate for another, and a budget estimate for a third. To a layman my Lord, these dry bones of facts and figures do not appeal, but this can be said of them with certainty that they embody the outstanding policy of the

Babu Prasanna Kumar Ray.

Government and puts in prominence the methods to be followed in giving effect to it. My Lord, *prima facie*, therefore Your Lordship's Government deserves sincere congratulations from every loyal citizen of Bengal for your Lordship's generous policy regarding education, sanitation, and other administrative affairs tending to the welfare of the people concerned.

But at the same time I confess to a sense of regret that from a closer perusal of the statement we find that in the last two years a deficit has been averted by an opening balance which I venture to submit is partly due to the special doles from the Imperial Exchequer not being fully utilized for the purpose for which they are intended. Therefore, My Lord, it is with some hesitation that I offer my remarks on it, and when I make them, it is not because that I fail to recognize the difficulties with which the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Finance has to contend with, but because I realize that this is the only opportunity before us to give expression to our views regarding the several branches of administration.

Excise.

Going through the item of receipts and expenditure the first item we meet that deserves comment is Excise. It is with a sense of great satisfaction that we notice that Your Excellency's Government is taking steps to check the consumption of opium and *charas*. In the past years the policy of the Excise Department was safeguarding the interest of the Government revenue rather than reducing drunkenness. My Lord, only imposition of high duties and thereby making liquor as costly as possible is not to be the aim of Government. A high price for a commodity like liquor, unless it is high to a prohibitive degree, is not an effective check at all. It means only "so much more taken out of the pockets of the poor consumers." The remedy lies, if I may be permitted to suggest it, in reducing the facilities for obtaining the drink by a gradual reduction in the number of excise shops and also, as was suggested by the Hon'ble Mr. Moberly, by curtailing the hours during which shops would be open for the sale of intoxicants.

Medical aid and Sanitation.

I now come to the question of medical aid and sanitation (items 50 and 60). As regards the former I beg to offer my sincere congratulation to your Excellency's Government for provision being made for jungle clearing and for nursing arrangements in mufassal hospitals. Though the grant is not adequate enough, yet everyone is grateful to the Government for a move in the right direction.

As regards sanitation, on behalf of the people of Chittagong I beg to thank Your Lordship for the grant of a munificent sum of two lakhs of rupees for water-supply within the municipal area. For the last twenty years Chittagong, with all its beautiful and natural advantages, was a veritable refuge of cholera and malaria; and who does not recall with horror the number of mortality in the months of April, May and June in the thickly-populated parts of the town every year. The scheme, though it is in its infancy, will I hope be gradually perfected under the sympathetic guidance of Your Lordship's Government.

Your Excellency's Government in the Resolution reviewing the reports of the working of the District Boards of Bengal just issued, has observed that the Boards have not spent the sum allotted to them for sanitation. My Lord, as a responsible member of one of the important boards of this province, I may respectfully remind Your Lordship that the allotted sum was made over to us at the fag end of the year, and it was not possible for us then to devise schemes within so short a period. Money may be spent in a minute. But it is our duty to see that it is spent systematically and usefully.

Babu Prasanna Kumar Ray.

Education.

Now I come to the most important item in the statement, viz. :— ***Education.*** In the matter of schools, both general and special, a sum of Rs. 26,50,000 is to be spent including inspection charges (which alone amounts to Rs. 7,89,000). It is a matter of regret that more than 25 per cent. of the allotted sum will go as inspection charges. Let us hope that in future we shall see the percentage on the decrease. It is to be regretted that a very inadequate provision—namely Rs. 67,500 has been made for technical and industrial schools. In a province like Bengal, where the need for technical education is very great, considering the miserable circumstances of the middle class people, the Government provision of such a petty sum is a matter of surprise. "The evident economic advantage that a nation obtains," says one of the leading writers of Commerce and Industry, "through the skill of its producers is a *prima facie* ground for State aid being given towards the attainments of suitable training. Expenditure for such an object is productive, even from a financial point of view."

As regards Elementary education Your Excellency's Government is trying to help us and for this thanks of the people are due to Your Lordship. The provision made may be said to be a good start. Then a sum of Rs. 2,17,000 has been provided for hostels outside Calcutta and Dacca. The Chittagong College, though a first grade one, has not yet got a good hostel of its own. The boarders now live in a house, which is detrimental to both study and health. Such is the case with the Collegiate School hostel. In Comilla also the Victoria College has not got a suitable hostel of its own. I appeal to Your Excellency for necessary aid in this respect. My last observation under this head is that provision ought to be made for making the Chittagong College a self-contained one—having all the branches of study affiliated. Every year at least 50 to 60 students flock to Calcutta only because the Chittagong College has no affiliation in Logic. The Comilla College, though near at hand, cannot accommodate more than the prescribed number. It is not desirable that students should flock to Calcutta, when suitable provisions may be made nearer home. Therefore I appeal for more generous aid for the Chittagong College and also for raising the Comilla College to a first grade one. Another matter, which I would like to invite the attention of Your Lordship to, is the difficulty felt by Eastern Bengal students in securing their admission into the Presidency College. It is the premier college in Bengal and no distinction ought to be made there whether the student comes from a Hindu School, or the Hare School or a school in an unknown hamlet of Bengal.

Erosion of the Town of Noakhali.

My Lord, I would be failing in my duty if I do not represent to your Lordship the condition of the town of Noakhali. The river is within half a mile of the town and (God forbid) the town may be washed away within a short time. Truths and half truths are being circulated daily as to the transfer of the headquarters to some other place. It is natural that this causes alarm in the public mind. Therefore, in order to allay public anxiety, a definite pronouncement ought to be made by the Government on this subject.

Increase of Pay of Munsifs.

Now the last observation that I wish to make in connection with this year's budget is the supreme satisfaction we feel that at last legislative grievances of a deserving class of public servants have been redressed by Your Excellency's Government. I mean the provision for the increase of pay of the last grade of munsifs. It is a proof positive that Your Excellency is

keenly solicitous that justice ought to be done where it has been too long delayed."

ADJOURNMENT.

The Council was then adjourned to the next day, Saturday, the 4th April, 1914, at 11 A.M.

A. W. WATSON,

Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal in the Legislative Department and Secy. to the Bengal Legislative Council.

DARJEELING,
The 2nd May 1914.

B. S. Press—28-5-1914—71J—500—C. J. D.

Extract of the Proceedings of the Bengal Legislative Council assembled under the provisions of the Indian Councils Acts, 1861, 1892 and 1909, and the Government of India Act, 1912.

THE Council met in the Council Chamber in Government House on Saturday, the 4th April, 1914, at 11 A.M.

Present :

His Excellency the Right Hon'ble THOMAS DAVID, BARON CARMICHAEL OF SKIRLING, G.C.I.E., K.C.M.G., Governor of the Presidency of Fort William in Bengal, *presiding*.

The Hon'ble SIR FREDERICK WILLIAM DUKE, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., *Vice-President*.

The Hon'ble NAWAB SYED SHAMS-UL-HUDA.

The Hon'ble MR. C. J. STEVENSON-MOORE, C.V.O.

The Hon'ble MR. F. J. MONAHAN.

The Hon'ble MR. J. G. CUMMING, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. J. H. KERR, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. H. L. STEPHENSON, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. H. F. SAMMAN.

The Hon'ble MR. H. H. GREEN.

The Hon'ble LT.-COL. A. C. DEL. JOLY DE LOTBINIÈRE, C.S.I., C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. C. H. BOMPAS.

The Hon'ble MR. B. C. MITRA.

The Hon'ble MR. W. W. HORNELL.

The Hon'ble RAI PRIYA NATH MUKHARJI BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble COLONEL G. F. A. HARRIS, C.S.I., M.D., F.R.C.P., I.M.S.

The Hon'ble NAWAB SIR KHWAJA SALIMULLAH BAHADUR, G.C.I.E., K.C.S.I.

The Hon'ble MR. S. P. SINHA.

The Hon'ble DR. NILRATAN SARKAR

The Hon'ble MR. R. GLEN

The Hon'ble MR. BYOMKES CHAKRAVARTI.

The Hon'ble SIR BIJAY CHAND MAHTAB, K.C.S.I., K.C.I.E., I.O.M., Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan.

The Hon'ble DR. DEBA PRASAD SARBADHIKARI.

The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble MR. NORMAN MCLEOD.

The Hon'ble MR. G. A. BAYLEY.

The Hon'ble MR. A. W. C. CHAPLIN.

The Hon'ble MAULVI MUSHARRAF HUSAIN.

The Hon'ble MAULVI A. K. FAZ-UL-HAQ.

The Hon'ble NAWAB SAIYID HOSSAM HAIDER CHAUDHURI, KHAN BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble MAHARAJA RANJIT SINHA of Nashipur.

The Hon'ble NAWAB SAIYID NAWAB ALI CHAUDHURI, KHAN BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble BABU PRASANNA KUMAR RAY.

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANARJI.

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH RAY.

The Hon'ble BABU MAHENDRA NATH RAY.

The Hon'ble RAI HARI MOHAN CHANDRA BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble BABU UPENDRA LAL RAY.

BENGAL BUDGET, 1914-15.

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 6.

(*The discussion on the Budget was resumed.*)

The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR said :—

The Finance Committee.

"Your Excellency, as at present constituted, the Finance Committee is not in a position to render much help to Government. The Committee is appointed in August and meets towards the end of the year. It has one or two sittings, and practically it becomes a formal matter to approve the distribution of the unallotted amount. No doubt the statement prepared and laid before the Committee is a well-considered one. But the non-official member finds it difficult to bring forward any new scheme or project or to suggest any alteration at the fag end of the year, when the Government have considered and prepared during the year, with the aid of its vast resources, schemes for adoption. A more active participation of the non-official members could be secured if the Finance Committee is appointed at the beginning of the year and is made a Standing Committee, and the non-official members are permitted to bring before the Committee any proposal for proper discussion and elucidation. The interchange of views between Government members and the non-official members and the threshing out of facts and figures in the Committee will satisfy both parties as regards the feasibility or otherwise of the schemes or suggestions. Such a Standing Committee will afford an incentive to the non-official members and will, at

the same time, save the time of the Council on discussions on motions brought before the Council on financial matters.

At the time of the next financial settlement, I would suggest to Your Excellency's Government to apply to the Government of India to surrender to the Government of Bengal the whole of the revenues collected in Bengal under the heads Land Revenue, Stamps, Assessed Taxes, the Government of India retaining the entire revenues from Customs, Salt and Railways, instead of presenting doles from time to time. The Budget shows a deficit of Rs. 1,05,98,000, which is covered by the opening balance of Rs. 2,04,30,000, and this leaves a closing balance of Rs. 1,98,32,000, out of which again Rs. 1,69,36,000 is earmarked on particular items of expenditure, inclusive of the minimum working balance of 20 lakhs. This leaves only Rs. 28,96,000 for new expenditure in future, which is too meagre a sum. This is an unsatisfactory state of things. This shews that the equilibrium of our provincial finance is dependent on the system of doles from the Government of India. It is for Your Excellency's Government to consider whether this state of things cannot be altered by securing the whole of the progressive revenue under Land Revenue, Stamps and Assessed Taxes which will produce an additional revenue of about Rs. 2,56,69,000.

Primary Education.

There is no special provision in the budget for the promotion of primary education in Calcutta. I find lump sum provisions, recurring and non-recurring, have been made for improving popular education and education generally. Primary education is a crying need in Calcutta, and I feel sure the matter is engaging the attention of Government. The Hon'ble Mr. Hornell has roused public attention to this subject with a view to obtain the co-operation of local bodies. There is an erroneous impression that the promotion of primary education is a duty imposed on the Calcutta Corporation. When the Calcutta Municipal Act was on the anvil in 1888, an attempt was made to saddle the Corporation with this expenditure. Sir Henry Harrison, the distinguished Chairman of the Corporation, the Honourable Member in charge of the Bill, in opposing the motion, observed, 'The present rates have been fixed with a view to the requirements of the town without taking into account any of the expenditure on education' and further on he observed, 'If the education is to supplement sanitation, would it be right?' As the Hon'ble Sir Charles Paul, the then Advocate-General, also in opposing the motion observed :—

'So long as Municipal Funds are urgently required for sanitary and other purposes, I would protest against enlarging the area of the subjects to which they might be applied.'

My lord, a comparison is made with Bombay and other places. This was also successfully repudiated by Sir Henry Harrison as he observed :—

'Calcutta has to levy its taxation almost entirely by rates on property and we all know the ever-increasing and urgent demands for the sanitary improvement of the town. Bombay has an extraneous income of about twenty-five lakhs of rupees from Excise, Octroi and tobacco duties, and Bombay contributes, if my information is correct, about one and a quarter lakhs of rupees for the promotion of primary education. In England there is separate taxation assigned for separate purposes. It will thus be seen that the educational expenditure in other countries are entirely different from those of Calcutta. The Corporation nevertheless contributes Rs. 70,000 for educational purposes. I submit therefore that the Government may be pleased to take up in earnest the question of primary education in Calcutta and provide adequate funds for it.

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Sanitation.

My lord, I find Rs. 50.000 has been budgetted for jungle-clearing. I am afraid the sum is inadequate. Malaria is still as rampant as before in the province under your Excellency's sway. The congestion of Calcutta is not a little due to the malarial condition of outlying municipalities. In the remote mufassal it is raging with more or less virulence. The cutting of rank vegetation in jungles will no doubt contribute in some measure to the abatement of malaria. A much larger sum of money should therefore be devoted to this purpose. Equally important is the removal of obstruction to drainage and obliteration of cess-pools : works like the Magra Hât drainage scheme are beneficial to the country. The improvement of waterways, dredging of old and drying water-courses serve double purposes—improvement of water-supply and drainage and easy and cheap means of inland trade. No expenditure of money is too large on such schemes. In this connection, I beg to invite the attention of Your Excellency's Government to the condition of Tolly's Nala to which attention has been drawn several times in this Council.

Relief in flooded areas.

In the Budget under the head of "Miscellaneous" only Rs. 50,000 has been provided for expenditure in gratuitous relief in flooded areas. Having regard to the extensive area affected by the floods, the devastation caused by it, and the immensity of distress prevailing in the areas, I venture to submit for the consideration of Your Excellency's Governnent whether the grant is at all adequate. The sympathy of Your Excellency's Government with the people at the time of their dire distress, and the co-operation of official and non-official workers to save the lives of people and to alleviate their distress, evoked widespread gratitude from the country, and I feel I am not making an ineffectual appeal in praying for a substantial increase of grant under this head. In this connection I should be failing in my duty if I did not pay a warm tribute to my Hon'ble friend Mr. Lyon for the ability, industry, devotion and self-sacrificing zeal with which he discharged the onerous duties as the head of the relief operations. As the Secretary of the Central Relief Organization in Calcutta, I speak from personal knowledge of the advice, help and encouragement which were freely and ungrudgingly extended to us by my Hon'ble friend. It is to us a matter of regret that the state of his health compels him to take leave. We sincerely hope and trust that he will come back renovated in health to resume his duties.

District Charitable Society.

There is an allotment of Rs. 1,70,000 for donation for charitable purposes. My lord, in the absence of a Poor Law in this country the various charitable institutions conducted by the representatives of the people give relief to the aged, the sick, the invalid, the widows and orphans thrown into destitution by the sudden death of the bread-winner. The District Charitable Society of Calcutta is the oldest charitable institution, being founded in the year 1838. There are two branches—Indian and European—who work hand in hand and look after their respective communities. The grant to this most useful society is very small. I believe for the last thirty or forty years the same grant has continued, which is, as I find from the annual report of the society, Rs. 1,200 a month from the Government of India, and Rs. 250 from the Local Government. The population of Calcutta from 1872 to 1911 has increased from 6,33,000 to 8,93,000, but the grant remains the same. I earnestly pray that the Government may be pleased to make an increased grant to this most useful Society."

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI said :—

"My first words on this occasion will be an expression of hope that the time-limit allotted to us on this occasion may be extended to 20 minutes."

The President; Babu S. N. Banerji.

The PRESIDENT said :—

"The Hon'ble Member is already aware that I have ruled that a time-limit of 15 minutes is to be imposed. He will not therefore waste his alloted time by discussing that ruling."

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI said :—

"I simply want to bring the matter to Your Excellency's notice. That is all."

The PRESIDENT said :—

"I must request Hon'ble Members to aim at a limit of 15 minutes. Of course I won't stop anyone in the middle of a sentence which everybody wants to hear. But the Hon'ble Member must try to keep within the limit."

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI said :—

The Provincial Settlement.

"My Lord, this is the last year of the Provincial Settlement. It was temporarily arrived at in 1912 on the elevation of this Government to the status of a Presidency Government. My Lord, the Provincial Settlements have a very important bearing upon the financial position of the province. Looking at the Budget figures for 1914-15, we find that whereas the expenditure comes to about 7 crores, the revenue is about 6 crores. There is a deficit of about a crore of rupees, and but for the benefactions of the Imperial Government our position would be serious. I think, my Lord, having regard to the importance of Bengal as a province, we ought to be able to pay our own way, to stand upon our own legs, without any reference to any extraneous aid which we might obtain. A slight readjustment of an important provincial head would, I think, remedy this evil. Stamps are a divided revenue. The revenue under the head of Stamps is 216 crores of rupees. It is divided between the Imperial Government and the Provincial Government. We get one crore and eight lakhs, and the Imperial Government get one crore and eight lakhs. My suggestion is, and I submit it for the consideration of the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Finance Department, that we should get the whole, that is to say, an addition of 108 lakhs to our revenue. I think that will square our accounts. I have called attention to this matter from my position in the Imperial Legislative Council, and I have no doubt that if proper representation were made by the Government of Bengal, a sympathetic response would be given.

Sanitation and Education.

Member after member have referred to the unfortunate fact that the authorities are not able to spend the allotments which are made under the heads of Sanitation and Education. I need not refer to these figures. They were given by my Hon'ble friend Babu Mahendra Nath Ray yesterday. My friend suggested that the Sanitary Board should be reconstituted. My friend the Hon'ble Rai Hari Mohan Chandra Bahadur in the speech that he delivered last year from his place in the Council recommended that a Central Board should be constituted in association with the Sanitary Board for the purpose of supervising the work of sanitation throughout the province. I do not know what answer the Hon'ble Member in charge of the department will give, but it does seem to me that it is important that we should have Standing Committees of this Council, one for sanitation and another for education, to be associated with the authorities in charge. The effect would be, I venture to submit, to quicken the pace of the administrative machinery; schemes would be rapidly submitted; work would be speedily carried out.

My Lord, in the course of the observations which my friend to the left made yesterday, he said that the examination standard of the University had been lowered, and—"

The Hon'ble BABU MAHENDRA NATH RAY said :—

"I did not commit myself to any expression of opinion. I said that there is an impression that the standard has been lowered, but I did not commit myself."

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI said :—

"I accept that. I am very glad that that explanation has been forthcoming, because the statement does not come before the public with the high authority of my Hon'ble friend to the left. It is an impression, but inasmuch as that impression has found expression in this Council, I deem it my duty to refer to it for a moment. The two points which my Hon'ble friend raised are, first, that the standard has been lowered, and secondly, that there are students who pass the Matriculation Examination who do not know English sufficiently well to be able to follow the lectures delivered in English. My point of agreement with my Hon'ble friend are so many that I can afford to record my dissent from him as regards this matter. So far as the standard of examinations is concerned, I do not think it has at all been lowered. No doubt the percentage of passes has been very high, and it is for the reason that in consequence of persistent pressure on the part of the University authorities, the efficiency of the teaching in the colleges and schools has greatly improved, with the result to which my Hon'ble friend has referred. So far as Calcutta students who pass the Matriculation Examination are concerned, I will say that I am in a position to speak with something like personal knowledge and authority. Up to January 1903, I was teaching the first year class of the Ripon College, and I was in daily contact with students who had passed in the Matriculation Examination. I did not experience any difficulty in carrying them along with me in the matter of the understanding of English, nor did I hear any complaint on this score uttered by any of the professors of the college.

Then, my Lord, with reference to the observations made by my Hon'ble friend the Nawab Bahadur of Dacca with regard to the well-to-do classes—I am sorry that the Nawab Bahadur is not here—I desire to record my most emphatic protest. My Hon'ble friend, the Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan, speaking from his place in this Council last year, referring to that matter, said that he was opposed to the establishment of a college for the well-to-do classes. That represents the concensus of public opinion in this matter, and if my memory serves me right, I believe a resolution of Government was recorded some time back in which the idea was disapproved of.

My Lord, passing from this matter, I come to certain points of detail in regard to which my Hon'ble friend the Director of Public Instruction will probably be able to give me some explanation. Free elementary education has received only Rs. 30,000 in 1913-14. This sum seems to me and everybody else to be inadequate. Then there has been a decline in the number of male students attending primary schools. On the 31st March 1912 we had 1,038,152 students, and on the 31st March 1913, we had 997,153. There has been a sensible decline, and my friend will probably be in a position to give some explanation in regard to this matter.

Then, my Lord, there are certain other items in regard to which I desire to call my friend's attention. I find that personal allowances amounting to Rs. 10,000 have been given to heads of colleges. I should like to know why these personal allowances have been given? Who are the recipients? Do they belong to the Imperial, the higher educational, or the Provincial Service? How many of them are Indians, and how many Europeans? In the next place, I find personal allowances given to two Inspectors amounting to Rs. 4,200. We should like to know something about them also.

Passing from education to sanitation, I desire to call Your Excellency's attention to the great problem of waterways. Our river systems are not what they should be. Many of our great rivers are silting up, and as a

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result, in consequence of the interruption of drainage, the country around is rendered unhealthy. My Lord, the Buriganga river in the Dacca district is silting up, dredging operations have been started, and a Waterways Committee, I understand, has been appointed. I desire to appeal to Your Excellency's Government to do their utmost to reclaim and extend the magnificent waterways of our province. My Lord, in this connection, it may not perhaps be out of place to call Your Excellency's attention to the Italian system which I understand engaged the attention of the Sanitary Conference. The system is known as *Bonificazione*. It is a double system of drainage and sanitation. It seeks to raise the level of the land, and to deepen the level of the rivers. It has been in operation for nearly 200 to 300 years in Italy, and has produced admirable results. It is very expensive, but I understand that it is also remunerative. I appeal to Your Excellency's Government to adopt the system in selected areas, and await the result.

Police.

My Lord, I now pass on to the question of expenditure on Police. The expenditure on Police has been steadily growing. In 1912-13 it was 83 lakhs; in 1913-14, it rose to 94 lakhs of rupees. In your estimate of 1914-15 it is about a crore and eight lakhs. It will be seen that in the course of three years the expenditure has increased by about 25 lakhs. My Lord, the verdict of public opinion is, and from my place as a popular representative, I feel it my duty to lay that verdict before you, that the efficiency of the police has not kept pace with this increase of police expenditure. A very large portion of this money, about Rs. 75,000, has been temporarily allotted for the Criminal Investigation Department, and some expenditure also has been incurred in connection with the division of the Calcutta Police Courts.

Provincial Judicial Service—Kanungos.

I now pass on to another branch of the subject. My friends have expressed their gratification at the large provision that has been made for the improvement of the condition of the members of the Provincial Judicial Service. I am in strong sympathy with the observations that have been made in that behalf. The members of the Provincial Judicial Service are a very worthy class, and deserve consideration at the hands of Your Excellency's Government. I desire to appeal to Your Excellency's Government on behalf of another neglected branch of the public service. I mean the Kanungos. It is a Persian word which has been naturalized into English. In these days we do not hear very much about these Kanungos. They work almost in subterranean channels. Their work is civil and not criminal. They often do the work allotted to Sub-Deputy and Deputy Collectors, and sometimes they come from the same class. They are divided into two grades. The lowest grade gets Rs. 50 and the highest Rs. 75 a month. I have not the slightest hesitation in saying that, having regard to the responsible character of the work they do, their remuneration is wholly inadequate. I venture to submit that at least four grades should be made of this class of public servants, the first on Rs. 75, the second on Rs. 100, the third on Rs. 125, and the last on Rs. 150. I hope that this matter will receive the sympathetic consideration of Your Excellency's Government.

In the next place I desire to call attention to the chaukidari tax. My friend to my left expressed the opinion yesterday that that tax should be abolished. My Lord, that represents a particular view. I do not know whether that view will be accepted by Government and the public, but there is not the slightest doubt that there is a strong body of public opinion which regards the tax as objectionable, as unequal in its incidence and oppressive in its operation. But, my Lord, I object to the chaukidari tax on the ground of principle. Watch and ward is the duty of the Government. Watch and ward should not be a charge upon local finances. I think that is a principle which is accepted and carried out in all civilized countries.

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I think, therefore, my Lord, that if the chaukidari tax is retained or any other tax substituted for it, the proceeds of village taxation ought to be devoted to the benefit of the sanitation of the villages concerned. That is the position which I take up. That is the principle which I venture to lay down, and that is the principle which I think Your Excellency's Government should accept. We get about 62 lakhs of rupees a year as the proceeds of the chaukidari tax. My Lord, if we are to get 62 lakhs of rupees from the villages of Bengal, not by direct taxation (I am opposed to all forms of direct taxation, especially when levied in villages), but by some form of indirect taxation, we could turn the whole of this amount to highly useful and beneficent purposes, and no higher or more beneficent purpose could be found than the sanitation of these villages. My suggestion, therefore is this, that the chaukidari tax should be abolished, that in its place indirect taxation which will produce the same sum of money should be imposed, and that the whole of this amount—we take it at 62 lakhs of rupees a year—be devoted to the sanitation of the villages of Bengal.

Restoration of the villages of Bengal.

My Lord, Lord Morley has told us in his memorable despatch of the 27th November 1908, which is the sheet-anchor of Indian reformers, that the village is the fundamental, the indestructible unit, of the Indian social system. But what is the position of our villages to-day? They are ruined, dilapidated, deserted, owing to the prevalence of malaria. My Lord, I invite Your Excellency's Government to rehabilitate our villages, to restore them to their former condition of peace, plenty and prosperity. It is a task to which I desire to invite Your Excellency's Government, and it will be worthy of the great Government over which Your Excellency has the honour to preside."

The Hon'ble NAWAB SAIYID HOSSAM HAIDER CHAUDHURI, KHAN BAHADUR said :—

Death of Lord Minto.

"My Lord, Before I make any observation on the Budget itself, I feel sure that I shall be permitted to express my sense of deep regret on the sad demise of one of our most illustrious Viceroys, the late Lord Minto, who inaugurated most useful reforms for the benefit of the people of India. His beneficent and peaceful measures will remain enbalmed in the loving and reverential memory of the present and succeeding generations of a grateful people.

General Remarks.

Referring to the Provincial Budget Estimate for the year 1914-15, I offer my warm thanks to the Hon'ble the Finance Member for the fuller information contained in the Financial Statement which he has laid before the Council. I also take the opportunity of expressing my appreciation of the careful and satisfactory character of the year's Budget, and beg to offer my congratulations to the Hon'ble Finance Member on its presentation.

Technical Education.

I am obliged to observe with regret that, under the head 'Education', the grant of Rs. 7,000, sanctioned in the year 1913-14 for opening up B and C classes in certain high schools, has been omitted from the Budget of 1914-15. Students desiring to take up technical education would be able to receive some sort of preliminary instruction if those branches of education were made available to them, and if some of the existing high schools were furnished with classes teaching this subject. The abolition of these classes from some of the high schools, such as from the Comilla Zilla School, is not,

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I submit, in the best interests of the public service, and especially in the case of the Comilla High School which was the only institution of its kind teaching this subject in the whole of the Chittagong Division. It appears desirable, therefore, that Government should sanction a recurring grant for the maintenance of such classes in at least some of the high schools in the Presidency and especially in the one at Comilla.

Under the head 'Engineering and Survey Schools' there appears a decrease of about Rs. 61,000 in the revised estimate. This surplus should have been utilized for provincialization of certain technical schools and for opening up some industrial schools in quarters where no such schools at present exist and where they are absolutely necessary.

Agriculture.

The most important need of the country immediately next to the spread of primary education is the equipment of the agricultural population, and for this reason I would like to suggest that primary education be divided into two different kinds :—

(1) primary education general for the masses ;
(2) primary education specific for agriculturists and their children.

As regards the development of primary education under head (1), the Government are already in possession of a variety of suggestions and comments, and different shades of opinion have been received which still engage the attention of Government in order to give the scheme full consideration. But the necessity for agricultural education in the province seems so very great that the agriculturists as a class should no longer be allowed to remain in their present state of mental penury. They adopt at present a system of cultivation which is quite out of date and the force of habit and the influence of tradition oblige them to cling to it. The result is that they are not easily roused to intellectual activity, and the longer they remain in this state the greater hold does it have upon them and the slower are their chances of improvement. The situation is so alarming that prosperity cannot be expected among this class of people until fresh life is breathed into it. : The manner in which this may be done must be left to the capable brains in Your Excellency's Government.

In a country like Bengal, where the bulk of the people live by agricultural pursuits, their material well-being always depends largely on the state of the seasons and the outturn of the crops. As the cultivators are slow in changing their present antiquated methods of cultivation, and the different kinds of manuring are little practised and artificial measures are little known, the systematic education of these poor agriculturists by practical methods and free of cost is a dire necessity. This is the first thing necessary to redeem rural life from ignorance and drudgery. It is high time that labour-saving machinery and other modern implements of agriculture should replace the present antiquated methods of agriculture practised by these ignorant people. There is no reason, except a lack of knowledge among the cultivators, why the soil should not be in a better state of fertility. As the agriculturists are ignorant of modern scientific methods of agriculture, agricultural education may be safely recognized as a new factor in the matter of exercising an ennobling influence in their lives and in the enriching of their profession. The solid strength of a country lies upon the substantial increase of its resources. Such practical knowledge of cultivation might tend to do much to yield an exuberant return of food-grains all over the agricultural area of the province, which I regard, rightly I think, as the chief need of the people at this critical period. What I wish to say is that the public mind should be made familiar with the idea of scientific culture. This should be called purely an agricultural education for the province, which should be encouraged and fostered by Government and supported by all classes of the people, in order that bounteous harvests by the yielding hands of Providence may be the order of the

day. The differences of soil, climate, etc., might not be favourable to the application of all the principles of European agriculture; but something should, however, be done, and it is gratifying to note that, in spite of the existing old methods of cultivation, the art of cultivation is gaining ground slowly. If the people are trained and taught the art of scientific cultivation, in the right sense of the meaning, I am sure that the industrial and economic condition of the cultivators will no longer be in doubt, and as agriculture is considered to be the staple industry of the country, it will really form, if fostered, a bulwark for British rule based on the hearts of the people. As India is almost entirely an agricultural country, the people in India should be made thoroughly to understand their subject and be taught with regard to it the principles of sound business, and the virtues of self-reliance and thrift. I venture to make these observations, because the present situation always fills me with anxiety, and I submit to Your Excellency's broad-minded statesmanship that, if agricultural instruction be handled in an enlightened and efficient manner, the solution of this problem must necessarily conduce to bring economic salvation to India and to add to universal felicity.

An early inauguration of measures of reform, with an adequate number of experts to instruct the cultivators in the knowledge of improved methods of ploughing their lands and manuring their soil, is urgently called for, and such a step forward will form one of the leading landmarks in the history of the province. This improvement, which will render the condition of a portion of the peasantry in the British Empire more prosperous and contended, lies in Your Excellency's hands; and the administrative machinery of the Government, of which Your Excellency is the revered head, will, if the improvement is effected, continue to be regarded as the harbinger of prosperity and happiness to thousands of agricultural homes and all the noblest aims and objects of Government will thus be fulfilled.

In conclusion, I congratulate Your Excellency's Government on the fact that the year under review is a year of prosperity and progress in almost all the branches of administration of Your Excellency's Government in the province."

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH RAY, said :—

General Remarks.

"My Lord, the most distinctive feature of the present Budget, like that of the Budget of the last year, is the large opening balance mainly due to the allotments, recurring and non-recurring, made by the Government of India for the purpose of the development of education and better sanitation and also the amount assigned on account of Public Works cess being unspent. While thankful that the resources of the Government of India have been found sufficient to enable that Government not only to renew this grant but also further to increase them in a year of gloomy outlook, we cannot but feel that instead of these recurring grants for sanitation and education being yearly assigned to the Government of Bengal by adjustment through the land revenue head of account the arrangement between the Government of India and of Bengal should be the assignments to the latter Government of certain items of income which would be recurring and upon which the Government of Bengal could always look with certainty for meeting the vast expenditure of the province in its varied and essential requirements, whether sanitary, educational or otherwise.

Secondary Education.

In my last Budget speech I dwelt on the needs of Secondary Education and especially of the aided schools. The resources of the latter are but limited. Although it is the recognized principle of Government that the grants for high schools must not exceed one-half of the income guaranteed from private sources including fees, subscriptions, donations and endowments,

it appears that during the financial year 1910-11, while the income from private sources was Rs. 14,73,916, the amount of Government grant-in-aid for aided schools was only Rs. 1,91,933 or only about 13 per cent., while in 1911-12 it appears that the percentage was but slightly increased, viz., to 14·8 per cent. The statements laid on the table by the Hon'ble Mr. Samman in answer to question No. 5 asked by me at the Council meeting of the 26th March, 1914, shows that in many cases the grants-in-aid have been increased liberally, but what we want to know is whether or not the increase has been allowed on condition of the school authorities being forced to raise from their limited resources an extra amount equivalent to the increased grant-in-aid, even in cases where the increased grant falls short of the recognized Government share of one-third of the total income.

Medical College Hostel.

We are thankful to Government for the provision of five lakhs of rupees for a hostel for the Calcutta Medical College. On the 4th April last I made the following observations regarding the Budget estimates for 1913-14 :—

'There is another matter in this connexion which I ought to mention for the consideration of Government. There is, so far as I am aware, at present no hostel attached to the Calcutta Medical College except probably one for the military students. Hostels are now attached almost to every Arts College in the province. If there is any class of students who require a hostel it is the students of the Medical College. They have not only to attend the College during lecture hours, but have to be on duty to attend to the patients of the Medical College Hospital both during daytime and at night. It is therefore a legitimate grievance with them that like the students of other colleges, they have no proper accommodation.'

It is therefore a matter of sincere pleasure not only to me personally but I think to most of the non-official members of the Council that within a year of the above remarks, the Government have made a provision of 5 lakhs of rupees which I think will prove quite sufficient to meet the urgency of the case, viz., a good hostel for the students of the Calcutta Medical College.

Admission of Students into the Medical College.

There is however another matter in connection with the Calcutta Medical College which I wish to mention here. I had occasion to bring this matter before Government not only by my remarks on the Budget estimates of 1913-14 but also by various questions which I put in the Council on more than one occasion. It is the inadequacy of the provision for medical training in the province. In answer to my questions put in this Council on the 1st September last the Government was pleased to answer that in 1910, out of 380 applicants, 123 were admitted to the Calcutta Medical College, in 1911 out of 531 applicants 142 were admitted, in 1912 out of 544 applicants, 153 were admitted, and in 1913 out of 581 the same number, viz., 153 students, were admitted. I was further told that limitation of admissions was due not to paucity of staff but to the capacity of the laboratories and buildings, particularly the former. Students were admitted to the full number for whom practical work could be arranged in the laboratories. In answer to a further question I was told that Government had at present no proposals under consideration for the admission of a larger number of students in the Medical College. If the staff is adequate for the purpose of imparting medical education to a larger number of students it seems rather strange that Government should year after year turn away nearly three-fourths of the students simply because practical work in the laboratories could not be arranged for them. The need for a large number of men trained in medical science is admitted by everybody. There are two private Medical Schools in Calcutta which want to be affiliated to the Calcutta University or rather the passed students of which schools want to have a recognized status, but that has been so far refused. There is no provision in the Budget to help these private medical

Schools in any way. In the circumstances one would have naturally expected that at least provision for teaching a larger number of students would be made in the Budget. But nothing has been done. One would have naturally expected that the Government who have taken so much pains to pass the Bengal Medical Bill should take all steps to give proper medical training to a much larger number of students than the limited accommodation in the Calcutta Medical College can at present afford.

The Provincial Executive and Judicial Services.

We are grateful to Government for increasing the pay of the last grade of Munsifs from Rs. 200 to Rs. 250, thus making the initial pay of the members of the Provincial Executive and Judicial Services equal. Provision has been made in the Budget for residences of Judicial officers not only for the year 1914-15 but also for the years 1915-16 and 1916-17. The amount is Rs. 50,000 in the first two years and Rs. 36,000 in the third year. We hope and trust that the whole of this amount will be spent in building residences of Munsifs, for they are a class of officers who feel the greatest inconvenience for want of proper residence, specially in the mufassal. I should like to make one suggestion with reference to the status of the members of the Provincial Executive Service for the consideration of the Government. It means no extra expenditure but it will give contentment to many. At present the members of the Provincial Judicial Service are divided into Munsifs and Subordinate Judges. The former draw a pay of Rs. 200 to Rs. 500, whereas the latter draw a pay of Rs. 600 to Rs. 1,000. Members of the Provincial Executive Service draw a pay of Rs. 250 to Rs. 800 and are, in whatever grade they may be, all known as Deputy Magistrates. In some districts senior Deputy Magistrates exercise the power of an appellate Court in criminal cases. This power is ordinarily vested in District Magistrates. I would simply suggest that Deputy Magistrates drawing a pay of Rs. 500 or Rs. 600 and upwards may, as soon as they attain the grade of Rs. 500 or Rs. 600, be vested with some at least of the powers of a District Magistrate and be designated 'Additional Magistrates.' This will have the effect of not only lessening the heavy burden on a District Magistrate but will please many senior men in the service without entailing any additional financial burden upon the State. There is much in a name. I think the Government need not await the report of the Public Services Commission to carry out the above suggestion.

Jails.

There is one item in connection with this subject to which I would like to draw the attention of Government. It appears that as regards dietary charges in Jails the sanctioned estimate for 1913-14 was Rs. 4,17,500, whereas the revised estimate was Rs. 5,67,000. In the Budget for 1914-15 the amount put down is Rs. 5,00,000. This is no doubt an addition of Rs. 82,500 over and above the sanctioned estimate of last year, but it is less than the revised estimate of last year by Rs. 67,000. This increase of Rs. 82,250 is again put down to increase in the price of food-grains and not to better quality of food to be supplied to prisoners. I think the question of supply of better food to prisoners is at present engaging the attention of the Government of India, and I need hardly say Your Lordship's Government will see its way to revise the Budget estimates by the light of any recommendations that may be made hereafter.

Courts of Law.

Under the above heading we find in the revised estimate a provision of Rs. 4,02,000 in the place of Rs. 2,78,000, and we are told that the revised estimate includes provision for fees to counsel in the Barisal Conspiracy case. We cannot and ought not to demur to any expenditure incurred by

Government in political trials. The Government are quite justified in incurring all legitimate expenses or such expenses as it considers legitimate in the trial of political cases. But when we find a sum of Rs. 4,02,000 put down in the revised estimate in the place of Rs. 3,05,000 and we are told that the revised estimate includes provision for fees to counsel in Damodar Diara case, that the Budget includes large provision for fees to counsel with reference to past actuals, we are forced to raise our voice against such lavish—nay extravagant—expenditure. The case in which expenditure was incurred was a case of alluvion and diluvion, and I think the mufassal pleaders can conduct such cases as ably and efficiently as any one else. The Government has got a pleader of their own in all districts, and he is generally one of the ablest pleaders of the place. We cannot understand why this expenditure was incurred in counsel's fees when there was an appeal to the High Court and when the other side had the case conducted by the local pleaders. I think this is also the proper place and proper time in which we ought to raise our voice in regard to the expenditure by Government of Rs. 14,000 in what is known as the Small Cause Court Bailiff's case. This is the figure supplied to this Council in answer to a question put by me after the order of retrial by the High Court. We should like to know what further sum has been spent since in this case in order to compare the expenditure with the importance of the case. If the Government thought it necessary to defend the accused it could have ordered its own Law Officer, the Public Prosecutor in the Police Court, to undertake the task. But to engage the services of a counsel at nearly twenty or thirty times the fee of the Public Prosecutor to defend an accused in a petty assault case is something which passes our comprehension. I think I voice the opinion of not only the non-official members of this Council but of the public generally, when I say that money spent in this case has been, to put it most mildly, money not spent in a proper way, and the public did not expect this expenditure from the Government who are the trusted custodians of the Public Exchequer.

Sanitary Board.

We are thankful to Your Lordship's Government for appointing two non-official members of Your Lordship's Council and a non-official European gentleman who is Chairman of an important riparian municipality as members of the Sanitary Board. We hope Your Lordship's Government will invest the Board with larger powers erelong, so that not only the usefulness of the Board may be increased, but that it may be a real helping hand to Government in all sanitary questions of the province."

The Hon'ble MR. NORMAN McLEOD said :—

"My Lord, in connection with the items grouped under the 'Medical' head of the Budget and the desire of Government to establish, in some form, an Examining Board with a view to raising the standard of medical practitioners in this country, I have this morning come into possession of some facts, which tend to dispel the suggestion made yesterday in the debate on the Medical Bill that Indians of the advanced age of 50 are unable or averse to go in for examinations. My authority is a member of this Council, a distinguished medical man, and I can therefore with confidence emphasize what I have already said that if a medical man wishes to excel in his art and raise himself to a higher standard of efficiency, there is nothing to prevent him doing so. The facts put before me are these: Some years ago Government, with the laudable desire of keeping up the standard of men practising in the mufassal and elsewhere, instituted a scheme under which men, who had passed out of a certain school, were enabled to return to their studies, pass examinations and make themselves up-to-date. This has been keenly taken advantage of, and at the present moment there are men at a hospital of ages ranging from 39 years to 60—men who have re-entered on

Maulvi A. K. Faz-ul-Haq.

their studies with a view to passing examinations and thus of bettering their medical attainments. Governments all over India are paying away money in large sums for the advancement of education. I hope this Government will show a good example, and pay a considerable sum for the purpose of making it easier for our medical practitioners of whatever grade to make themselves even more useful in the future than in the past. We may educate our students to bursting point with knowledge, but what is the use of it unless they have sound bodies, and to that end the best means of preserving health and preventing disease is to have in our midst medical men of the highest attainments possible."

The Hon'ble MAULVI A. K. FAZ-UL-HAQ said :—

Muhammadan Education.

"My Lord, I rise with some regret to take part in these discussions, for I feel that in justice to the duty I owe to my community, I cannot allow this Budget to pass unchallenged. I know that the limit of time imposed renders detailed discussions impossible; but nevertheless I cannot, by adopting an attitude of silence, subscribe to any principle which would justify expenditure from public funds in utter disregard of the legitimate claims of my community.

My Lord, it is now 12 months, almost to a day, that I raised my voice in this Council as a protest against the policy of whittling down the claims of the Muhammadan community in allotments of public expenditure for the furtherance of education in this country. I used the language of strong comment, and I hoped that Government would either attempt a justification of their policy or a refutation of the charges I had brought against them. Neither course was, however, adopted, and 12 months have rolled away without effecting any change for the better, either in the attitude of the officials or the temper of the Muhammadan community. It looks as if my voice in this Council died away like a voice in a wilderness, and not even the faintest echo penetrated the stolid walls of the Government Secretariat. It may be consonant with official dignity to treat our remarks with indifference, but I would remind them that the only result of this attitude has been that my open indictment of Government policy remains unanswered to the present day.

It is true that in presenting the amended Draft Financial Statement in Council on the 5th of March, the Hon'ble Mr. Hornell said that he protested against any suggestion that the Muhammadans are not getting their fair share in the general improvements which the Imperial Grants are enabling Government to effect. I may tell the Hon'ble Member that a dogmatic assertion like this, coming even from a head of department, must fail to carry conviction unless it fits the fact, or unless it is backed by acceptable argument. Mr. Hornell is new to the department and it is a pity that before he had acquired sufficient grasp of facts to enable him to judge of our claims in their true perspective, he should have been led to identify himself with a policy which is open to serious criticism. I rather look upon the Budget allotments in the light of an insult to my community, and I cannot allow this protest to pass unanswered.

My Lord, it will save time if I begin with accepted facts. The Hon'ble Member has himself admitted that beyond an allotment of 2 lakhs for the acquisition of certain lands, no sums out of the 52 lakhs assignment have been set apart for specifically Muhammadan institutions. I do not think it requires much logic to convince anyone that an allotment of 2 out of 52 lakhs is a somewhat questionable recognition of the growing demands of an advancing community But this is not all. Not only is the allotment itself extremely inadequate, but it is a distinct breach of many a promise held out to us by the late Director of Public Instruction and other officials, and is in conflict with the spirit of the Government of India Resolution on the subject of the encouragement of Muhammadan education. It will be within the

recollection of this Council that on the 14th March, 1913, the Hon'ble Nawab Syed Nawab Ali Chowdhury, Khan Bahadur, moved a Resolution recommending the allotment of a substantial sum in Budget provisions in furtherance of Muhammadan education. This Resolution was accepted by Government without a controversy, and the Hon'ble Mr. Küchler, replying on behalf of Government, gave us the assurance that our claims would not be neglected. This was followed by my own Resolution of the 4th April, which was also accepted by Government, with a promise that sums to be specifically spent on Muhammadan education would be separately shewn in schemes for the distribution of Imperial Grants for Education.

All these promises and assurances have practically come to nothing, and it is now sought to silence criticism by a rigid frown of official authority. Time will not permit a detailed examination of the question in all its aspects, but I will refer to only one particular to show how unjustly we are being treated—I refer to the question of hostel accommodation for Muhammadan students. In the speech already referred to, the Hon'ble Mr. Küchler admitted that one way 'in which the higher education of Muhammadans can be fostered and facilitated is by the provision of an adequate amount of hostel accommodation.' This was on the 13th March, and on 17th March, the Hon'ble Mr. Kerr stated that a considerable proportion of the 10 lakhs grant made by the Government of India for the erection of hostels in Calcutta, would be devoted to the provision of hostel accommodation for Muhammadan students. Not only has no attempt been made to keep this promise, but this year the authorities have gone one better, and have refrained from allotting even one single pice towards Muhammadan hostels in Calcutta. We are told that the Baker and Elliott hostels will be extended and that Rs. 91,000 has been set apart for this purpose. Even here we are being kept on the tenterhooks of impatience, and the story of Rs. 91,000 having been set apart is being repeated year after year. We first heard of this Rs. 91,000 in Mr. Küchler's speech on the 14th March, 1913; it reappeared in Mr. Kerr's reply on the 17th March; and this year it emerged out of oblivion in Mr. Samman's reply on the 28th February. I wonder how many interpellations in Council will be necessary to dislodge this sum from its impregnable position in the Budget, in order to be of some practical benefit to Muhammadan students.

My Lord, I have heard it said that no urgent case has been made out for any specific schemes of extended hostel accommodation for Muhammadan students. A refutation of such a statement requires more time than I have at my disposal, and I can only refer to certain facts which speak for themselves. The total number of Muhammadan students in the various colleges in Calcutta, including Law and Medicine, comes up to 660. It appears from the reply to the question by the Hon'ble Nawab Syed Hossam Haider Chaudhuri, Khan Bahadur, that of these only 109 live in existing Government hostels and 24 in hostels attached to private institutions. In other words, as many as 527 boys or nearly 80 per cent. of the total are left to shift for themselves in the precarious scramble for accommodation in the uncongenial and unsympathetic environments of a city like Calcutta. It is worthy of note that out of the 660 students as many as 521 belong to institutions roughly within ½ a mile radius of College Square. No amount of extensions to the Baker and Elliott hostels can bring these students any real relief. What is wanted is a well-equipped hostel situated in the vicinity of institutions in close proximity to College Square.

The case of mufassal students is equally bad, if not worse. One has only to take a rapid survey of the conditions obtaining in the 26 districts of the Presidency to realize how pressing is the demand all round for hostel accommodation. We have the cases of Burdwan, Murshidabad, Midnapore, Nadia and Jessore where there are absolutely no hostels for college students, while the accommodation for school students is of the most meagre kind; there are the cases of Dacca, Khulna, Chittagong, Tippera, Rajshahi and Pabna where the accommodation for both classes of students is grossly inadequate. In Dacca itself, out of a total of 211 college students there is

hostel accommodation for only 54. At Rajshahi out of a total of 149 students only 28 are living in hostels; in Tippera, there are 62 college students for only 16 of whom there is some kind of hostel accommodation. It is needless to multiply instances. We are told that only about one lakh will be devoted for the improvement and provision of hostel accommodation in the mufassal. Are we to understand that little doles out of this one lakh allotment distributed pell-mell all over the Presidency will effect any material change in existing conditions, or afford our students any appreciable relief? Let the Hon'ble Mr. Hornell answer.

My Lord, while on the subject of expenditure on Muhammadan education I cannot help saying a few words about the Calcutta Madrassa. The affairs of this institution badly require looking after. I am told there is a Madrassa Committee, but the duties of this body seem to comprise anything but the act of supervision over the affairs of the institution. The question of the Principalship of the Madrassa should at once be taken in hand. A sum of more than Rs. 13,000 a year is being spent to maintain this post, and Muhammadan opinion is practically unanimous that all this money is being wasted. I fail to see the propriety of having a European member of the Indian Educational Service to glorify a post whose duties are of such a meagre character. For more than a quarter of a century, the Education Department has been playing interesting experiments with this post, although the necessity for its maintenance really ceased with the abolition of the College classes of the Madrassa. European scholars have been foisted on this institution whenever the department seems to have felt a difficulty in making suitable provisions for them elsewhere. Dr. Hœrnle was a Sanskrit scholar, but the Hindu College would not accept him, and he was sent to fill the Madrassa sinecure, and carry on learned researches in Pali and Sanskrit archæology. The present incumbent is a Hebrew scholar, and I am told that his attainments in even homely Urdu are so meagre that he has to talk with his Muhammadan subordinates through the medium of an interpreter. It is time that these arrangements should be terminated, the post abolished, and the saving effected devoted to more useful purposes.

My Lord, I ventured to trespass on the attention of this Council with my remarks on Muhammadan education because I am anxious that the widest facilities should be given to our students in order that Muhammadan education may be put on a par with the needs of the community and the country. But I mean no disrespect to the official world when I say that I have grave misgivings if my efforts will bear any practical fruit. Within the last 15 months, numerous attempts have been made in various shapes to draw pointed attention to the needs of our students and the necessity for making suitable provisions in the Budget for specific schemes in urtherance of Muhammadan education. But the success which has hitherto attended our efforts has been practically nothing. To our questions in Council, enigmatical replies have sometimes been given, and even our successful resolutions have been either ignored, or condemned to glorify the dusty shelves of the Government Secretariat. It is seldom that the non-official voice can successfully prevail against the official, and even if it does prevail it seems to receive the scantiest recognition. I do not know what other non-official members think of this, but to me the situation is most discouraging. We are in theory the chosen representatives of the people, and to please our fancy, we are even in a majority in the Council. But for real effective work on behalf of our country, our opinion is of little more value than that of the average man in the street. I believe, it was Lord Morley who remarked that Indians in agitating for representative institutions were really crying for the moon. Well, my Lord, we have perhaps got the moon after all, but our voice in the Councils of the Government seems to be as ineffectual as that of the man in the moon. I am disposed to think that our leaders in their eagerness for these representative institutions only clutched the shadow but lost the substance, and that while we have been crying hoarse for bread, we have been given only stones instead.

Dr. Nilratan Sarkar.

My Lord, I do not wish to detain this Council any longer. It is time that in grappling with the various and complicated problems of administration, officials should take note of the real temper of the Muhammadan community. It should not be forgotten that the Muhammadan community of to-day has outgrown the stage of political adolescence and can no longer be nurtured on fitful doles of official favour. We have become conscious of our rights and privileges, and any indifference to our claims naturally causes resentment. And where resentment exists, discontent is bound to follow, and it requires the highest statesmanship to deal with the complex problems of administration at such crises. The annulment of the partition deeply affected the minds of the community, and subsequent events have hardly improved the situation. I would appeal to those who have had knowledge of the state of things in East Bengal immediately preceding the annulment to testify how loyally the community stood by Government in the face of influences which might have weaned it from the paths of loyalty. I would appeal to Your Excellency's Government to reflect whether the pledges held out by the Government of India at the time of the annulment have been faithfully kept. I would appeal to the various heads of departments, in the name of that sense of justice which is at once the boast and the pride of every Briton, to consider whether Muhammadan interests have really been receiving due and proper attention. And lastly, I would appeal to Your Excellency in person to consider the matter carefully and so to shape the policy of administration as to ensure to us that justice, that fair-play, that equitable participation in State patronage, which are the birthrights of every British subject, and which are not denied to the most insignificant of the countless communities which go to make up the heterogenous population of the British Empire."

The Hon'ble Dr. NIL RATAN SARKAR said :—

Education.

"My Lord, I do not think I can better utilize the few minutes at my disposal than by inviting the attention of this Council to a question to which public attention has very properly been drawn by the Hon'ble Mr. Hornell—I mean certain educational needs of Calcutta which have not been very scrupulously attended to either by the Corporation or by the Local Government. There does not seem to be any ground for dispute that the growth and organization of primary and industrial education in the first city of the Empire have been left mainly to chance. And if we have arrived at the rather satisfactory figures of 51·6 and 26·8 per cent. of boys and girls respectively of school-going age actually at school, it is as much due to a combination of happy accidents as to any efforts of those who would ordinarily be expected to forward the cause of education in this city.

It is regrettable that the civic conscience of Calcutta has been at ease so long in this matter, having actually deluded itself into the belief that education is none of its primary concerns. And looking back to the year 1888, we are surprised to find that there was strong opposition even to the insertion in the Municipal Act of the permissive clause that now empowers the Corporation to provide for the promotion of primary and technical education. I will not detain the Council by entering into an examination of the question as to whether primary education of the city population should legitimately be reckoned among the duties of a municipal Corporation and should form a charge on its finance. Suffice it to say that in the countries of the West, it is counted one of the main responsibilities of local bodies. Even if one were to demur to this as a principle, there is another point of view—which, however, is not without a tinge of selfishness—from which the question can be looked at. As my distinguished countryman Sir Gurudas Banerji pointed out long ago, education should be widely spread in Calcutta, if only to ensure a better appreciation of the sanitary laws and the civic virtues and duties by the people at large. However, as the present provision in the Calcutta Municipal Act simply permits and does

not enjoin it as a duty, the Corporation grant towards the maintenance of secondary and primary schools, and schools of industry and art stands at the ridiculously low figure of Rs. 32,894; and the total Educational Budget of the Corporation is represented by some seventy thousand rupees, which is made up of direct and indirect contributions to educational institutions of all kinds. Even apart from this inadequacy of contribution, municipal apathy in this matter reflects on the educational progress of the city in quite another way. There being no other constituted authority within the city limits of Calcutta which can be called upon to assume responsibility, the cause of primary education remains a shuttlecock which is bandied by Government to the Corporation and by the Corporation back to the Government again. And as a result of this, we find that while even the mufassal towns and mufassal local bodies have amply reaped the benefit of the recent munificence of the Imperial Government in the cause of education, Calcutta has to remain satisfied with modest doles which it seems to be nobody's concern to see expanded. Even under ordinary circumstances, a mufassal municipality is expected to spend 3·2 per cent. of its local income on education; and in the year 1912-13, the District Boards in Bengal devoted more than 25 per cent. of the whole expenditure to education. If it were possible to get 3·2 per cent. of the total Corporation revenue for purposes of education, we would have at our disposal over three lakhs of rupees, which, coupled with an adequate Government grant, would be sufficient to meet the expenses of primary education. But if that is not possible to be realized, one finds no reason why this city should not emulate in this particular another Presidency town which is sometimes looked upon as a rival. Bombay, we find, contributes very liberally towards the primary education of her people, and what is more, the Corporation there has all the responsibility of primary education, this control being exercised through a mixed committee of eight members—the Corporation and the Government being equally represented. A section in the Bombay Municipal Act lays down that the municipal contribution in any year should not be less than a sum which, added to the fee levied during that year, would be equal to double the Government grant. In Bombay, in 1907-08, the total expenditure on primary education from all sources was about 2¼ lakhs, of which 1¼ lakhs was found by the Corporation, seventy-three thousand representing Government contribution. In Calcutta in the same year the total expenditure on primary education was 3½ lakhs, of which less than ½ lakh was met by the Corporation, a little over one lakh being contributed by Government. The present efforts of the Calcutta Corporation being purely voluntary, there is nothing to wonder at in these figures. That there is very great room for improvement in the matter of primary education, which is in a greatly miserable state at present, is admitted on all hands. And the question is one as much of finance as of a constituted agency which would thoroughly identify itself with the educational interests of Calcutta and hold itself responsible for the expansion of primary education. As for funds, it may be pointed out that Calcutta is not being very fairly dealt with by Government as there is no authority who can make a demand for money. Even in certain official circles this has given rise to some disappointment.

My Lord, I have looked through our Budget statement in vain for any special grant for primary education in Calcutta. But let us hope that a proportion of the lump education grants from the Imperial Government, which are not earmarked in the Budget for any special purpose, will be devoted to the cause of primary education in Calcutta, a portion of such non-recurring allotment being utilized in providing model houses and other equipments of primary schools in this city. The Excise revenue of Calcutta should be placed at the disposal of the Corporation for meeting the recurrent expenditure under the head of Primary and Industrial Education in the city. I am convinced that want of adequate funds is not an insurmountable difficulty, if the Government and the Corporation can be persuaded to make liberal contributions. But the real evil is the want of sense of responsibility of the Corporation. And the only remedy seems to lie in vesting the

Corporation with full responsibility in the matter of primary education. As the late Sir Charles Allen admirably suggested, "The Corporation should assume responsibility for primary education of a literary and vocational character throughout the city, receiving from Government an annual grant of expanding revenue, sufficient, when added to the present allotment, to pay for primary education which should probably be free and compulsory." I am glad to find that the Corporation has already taken some steps towards the attainment of this object. But in order that this object may be fully carried out, it will be necessary to make a legislative provision vesting the Corporation with necessary powers. And it is my hope that special amendment of the Calcutta Municipal Act will be undertaken in this behalf at an early date."

The Hon'ble Mr. HORNELL said :—

"Your Excellency, the only really serious attack which has been made on the Government in connection with the educational estimates is that which is concerned with Muhammadan education. As regards this item of our educational programme we have been charged with a breach of faith, and a picture has been drawn for the benefit of this Council in which the Local Government are represented as radiant with the bounty of the Imperial Government but turning a deaf ear to the needs of those whose needs are greatest, and bestowing benefits upon those who need them least. The charge of breach of faith rests mainly on a certain resolution of the Hon'ble Nawab Syed Nawab Ali Chaudhuri which was passed on the 13th March last. The Hon'ble Nawab has referred to that resolution, but perhaps in order to make myself quite clear I may just repeat to the Council what exactly happened on that occasion. The resolution runs as follows :—

'The Council recommends to the Governor in Council (*a*) that a substantial sum out of the educational grant of Rs. 75,00,000 be applied :—

(*i*) towards providing better facilities for the education of Muhammadan boys in existing colleges, schools and Madrassas, and

(*ii*) towards starting new educational institutions, with similar facilities, in centres of Muhammadan population, and

(*iii*) that a fair and reasonable amount out of the recurring educational grant of Rs. 13,20,000 be appropriated in that behalf.'

My predecessor, in accepting the resolution on behalf of Government, said as follows :—'Fortunately there is no financial objection to this resolution, as the Hon'ble Member has not asked for the allotment of any specific sum, but has merely asked for a substantial contribution from the Imperial grant which is being made for the general purposes of education. Moreover, the resolution, as will be noticed, is couched in general terms, and these terms are in entire accord with the policy which has been laid down by the Education Commission in 1884 towards Muhammadan education, and which, I take it, has been consistently followed by Government ever since.'

Before dealing more specifically with the attack, I desire to make a few general observations with reference to the Imperial grants generally. In the first place, I would remind the Council that all the Imperial grants have been assigned under specific heads, and their scope more or less clearly defined. In the second place, although the Hon'ble Nawab has referred to these grants as munificent, and although of course we are exceedingly grateful for having received them, I think that even he will admit that when you come to examine any specific grant in the light of the demands which are urgent in the particular branch of education with which the grant is concerned, you will be forced to admit that it goes a very little way indeed. I would also wish to emphasize the fact that the ability of the Education Department to take a grant and spend it quickly bears no relation whatever to the extent or the urgency of the demand with which the grant is concerned. Take, for example, the case of hostels in Calcutta. We all know how imperative this demand is, and here I will allude briefly to some remarks

which fell from the Hon'ble Nawab of Dacca, who suggested that we took so long in considering our schemes that sometimes they became addled, and that we forgot that the object of considering and maturing a scheme was that eventually it should result in action. He brought forward, and the Hon'ble Maulvi Faz-ul-Haq also alluded to, the question of the extension of the Baker Madrassa hostel. He deplored the fact, and he deplored it rightly, that although a sum of Rs. 91,000 has been provided for some considerable time in the Budget, this scheme has not yet passed beyond the stage of discussion. I deplore it also. I can only assure the Hon'ble Nawab of Dacca that this delay has been most intensely galling to all the members of the Education Department who were concerned with the scheme. Perhaps, by way of illustrating the sort of difficulties which occur generally in connection with building schemes in Calcutta, I may just allude to one or two of the delays in connection with this scheme for the extension of the Baker Hostel. Something like this happened. The scheme was prepared, but it was discovered after the plans had been drawn up that in order to carry out the design it was necessary to encroach upon a lane to the extent of only a few inches. It was a small matter, but unfortunately this lane was a public road leading to a thana, and of course this brought in the Commissioner of Police, the Chairman of the Municipality, and all kinds of people. I have done my best to try and push the scheme through. I have paid several visits myself to the spot in the early morning and written long memoranda stirring up all the authorities concerned. I am sorry that the work has not yet been put in hand, but I am quite sure that the scheme which was drawn up was neither adequate nor satisfactory, and when we have fully discussed and worked out revised and extended proposals, the community concerned will not, I think, be ungrateful.

Well, in spite of the fact that the ability of the Education Department to take a grant and spend it quickly bears no relation, as I have said, to the extent or urgency of that demand, I think that the Council will agree with me when I say that it is a very bad thing to have unspent balances left in the Budget. If we keep money unspent, especially money allotted for capital grants, we lay ourselves open to the contention that we have got more money than we can spend, and we are of course confronted with a quite natural reluctance or indeed refusal on the part of the Finance Department to sanction any additional funds until we have spent those that we have got.

Now as to the specific charge, viz., that in allotting the Imperial grants we have broken faith with the Muhammadans, and have treated them with an illiberality which they do not deserve, I have been taken severely to task for suggesting that the Muhammadans share in the general improvements which we have been able or may be able to effect in secondary or primary schools by means of the Imperial grants. I must even now confess that when I wrote the sentence to which such exception has been taken I thought that I had scarcely ever written anything more harmless. But as a specific instance let me take the case of secondary schools. The Hon'ble Babu Mahendra Nath Ray gave the Council yesterday a description of the very poor condition in which a great many of these institutions are owing to lack of funds. I entirely endorse what the Hon'ble Babu Mahendra Nath Ray said. We have been told that these secondary schools, to which Muhammadans and Hindus alike resort, are in a deplorably weak condition owing to lack of funds. Well, what money, what additional recurring grants have we in hand to improve these conditions? I may perhaps remind you that as long ago as 1908 a scheme for the improvement of secondary education in the province of Bengal, as it then was, was prepared by Sir Archdale Earle and sent up to Government. The cost of this scheme amounted to 14 or 15 lakhs. We have received towards the improvement of secondary education two Imperial recurring allotments, one of 1½ lakhs and the other of Rs. 2,26,000. The grant for a lakh and a half was specifically earmarked and assigned for the improvement of existing schools, and we were told distinctly and definitely that the money was not to be spent on extending secondary education, but on improving it. The assignment of the grant of Rs. 2,26,000 has not yet been definitely settled. The Inspectors in the various

divisions have been asked to consider the assignment of this allotment. I admit that the Muhammadans have special claims. I have travelled a good deal about the Presidency since I joined. I have seen how real their needs are, especially the need for hostels, and to this I shall come in a moment. I have said that the grant of Rs. 2,26,000 has not yet been definitely assigned, but I would ask the Council whether, should Government decide to allot that grant for the improvement of the ordinary High and Middle English schools, to which Hindus and Muhammadans alike resort, they will have acted otherwise than in a spirit of perfect good faith. I understand that the Muhammadans generally consider that it is desirable that their boys should resort in ever-increasing numbers to the ordinary secondary schools. Were it not so, there would be no basis for the criticism with reference to hostels, which I understand refers largely to the question of hostels in connection with high schools. If that is so, then surely, gentlemen, in all fairness, is it an outrageous thing to have suggested that, when the money we have in hand is totally and absurdly inadequate for the work which we have to do, the first charge on what money we have now should be those secondary schools which are open to Muhammadans and Hindus alike?

Reference has been made to the Madrassa Reform Scheme, and to the remarks which fell from the lips of my predecessor when, in connection with the Resolution to which I have just referred, he dealt with this matter. I quite endorse everything which the Hon'ble Nawab Saiyid Nawab Ali Chaudhuri said about the extreme importance of pushing forward this scheme as soon as possible. When I joined here, less than a year ago, I found a very great number of schemes awaiting me, amongst them the Madrassa Reform Scheme. I saw that the introduction of this scheme, of which I entirely and absolutely approved, would be a matter of very great difficulty and complexity, and what is more, even to introduce it on a small scale would cost a considerable sum of money. I have also, as I explained, been more and more impressed in the course of every tour I make with the inadequacy and weakness of the ordinary secondary schools. Should I have been justified in advising Government to hold up a large amount of the sums—very small sums—which have already been allotted to secondary education, in order to finance the Madrassa Reform Scheme when it should be found possible to introduce it? Do not let me be misunderstood. The scheme has been most carefully considered in the last few months by Mr. Taylor, the special officer for Muhammadan education. It is one of the first things which I asked him to do, and it is now before me in detail. I cannot enter into any definite undertaking on behalf of Government, but I am quite sure that, in the course of the next few months, I shall have my proposals ready for the introduction of that scheme, and I do not despair of being able to suggest a means by which it can be financed.

Now, as to female education, the Hon'ble the Nawab Saiyid Nawab Ali Chaudhuri has painted a picture of a community which is crying out for the education of its girls, and a community which, faced with an allotment of Rs. 2,44,000, is told that it cannot have more than Rs. 10,000. Well, we are by means of these recurring grants financing various schemes, such as the Urban school scheme and the Sadar school scheme, which were worked out in the old province of Eastern Bengal and Assam after consultation with, and careful consideration by, the Female Education Committee, on which Muhammadans were represented, and although I quite realize that there are difficulties which prevent the Muhammadans from taking the full benefit of these schools, I cannot but feel that it is at least fair to us to say that not only can they profit, but that they are actually profiting to some extent, by the introduction of these schemes. Only the other day I was in a mufassal town where there was an urban school, and I found that no less than two members of the staff, who were all ladies, were Muhammadans. Then again, the Hon'ble Nawab Saiyid Nawab Ali Chaudhuri has made no mention whatever of the fact that out of these additional funds which have recently been given to us, we have appointed an additional Assistant Inspectress for the improvement of zenana education in the Burdwan and Presidency Divisions, and that out of 15 new zenana teachers who have

been appointed and financed out of these Imperial grants no less than 8 are Muhammadan ladies.

As to primary education, I venture here again to suggest, with all due deference, that the Muhammadans share in such general improvement as we have been able and may be able to effect. I have been in many parts of the Presidency where the majority of the teachers of primary schools are Muhammadans, and what is more, in the allotment of some Rs. 4,47,000 for increasing the pay of teachers in primary schools Muhammadans share equally with others. The Muhammadans have shared in all the capital grants for buildings and equipment which have been made during the last few years, which have aggregated between two and three lakhs of rupees.

I now come to the very vexed question of grants for hostels. I am afraid it is necessary to go into some detail.

The Imperial allotment concerned is the grant of 20½ lakhs for the construction of hostels throughout the Presidency of Bengal and what is known as the Dacca Enclave Scheme. In July last I found that we were not making very much progress with the allocation of these grants, and so I spent three or four laborious days in collecting all the demands which had up to that time been submitted to me and showing them against the grants with which they were concerned. Against this grant I found that we had received schemes for hostels in various conditions of maturity amounting to a sum of 10 lakhs. Obviously, the first thing to do was to get Government to distribute each grant which had been assigned to more than one purpose under the various heads with which it was concerned. Having received the orders of Government assigning 5½ lakhs to hostels, all that it has been possible for me to do since then has been to draw up a list of the more matured projects and to press for the completion of these schemes. This list includes projects for Muhammadan hostels which amount to one lakh. If I have given the impression that one lakh out of 5½ lakhs is the share to which, and to which alone, the Muhammadans are entitled, I desire to apologize for having been misleading. The position is simply this: I find myself with 5½ lakhs to spend on college and school hostels; for reasons, to the cogency of which the Council is fully alive, I consider it to be most desirable that the money should be spent with as little further delay as possible. Local inquiry with reference to the demands had previously been made, and as a result of these inquiries certain projects are before me. As each of these projects reaches me in a state of completion, I shall consider it carefully, with a view to deciding whether it can be sent forward to Government to be financed wholly or in part. But I am quite willing to consider any new scheme for the construction of a hostel, whether it be for Muhammadans or for Hindus, or anyone else. Nor should it be assumed that it would be vain to send up such a scheme seeing that no funds are likely to be available. The projects on the list above referred to are in various stages of maturity, and over and above this capital assignment, some funds—I cannot say how much—will be available for construction, for Government has agreed that some amount of the annual Imperial grant of Rs. 1,32,000 for hostels may be devoted annually, for the present at any rate, to capital contributions. As I have said before, we are quite aware of the special demand for hostels for Muhammadan pupils. I have noted this carefully in all my tours, and only the other day at Rangpur I had a meeting of the representatives of the district and encouraged them to send forward projects. We hope, as I have said, to do much more for Muhammadans. But have we done so very badly for them in the past? In 1913-14 we provisionally allocated about 8 lakhs of rupees for institutions which were specifically Muhammadan, and I desire to explain that when I said that 2 lakhs earmarked for the purchase of land in Calcutta was the only amount which was assigned to what I called specifically Muhammadan institutions, I was not thinking of such institutions as hostels for high schools, but of such institutions as will be used by Muhammadans alone. Even so, I would ask whether it was quite generous to seize upon that statement and to say what perfidy, what faithlessness is this! This sum of Rs. 2 lakhs is the first contribution towards a scheme

which will entail very considerable expenditure. It is not the time now to go into the details of the proposal to establish a Muhammadan Arts College in Calcutta which has occupied so much of the time of the Hon'ble Nawab Syed Shams-ul-Huda and myself during the past few months, but this amount of 2 lakhs, if spent on the acquisition of a good site, will enable us to make the first move towards a general reconstruction of the Madrassa and the establishment of an Arts college in Calcutta for Moslem students.

As I have just said, in 1913-14 we provisionally allocated a sum of Rs. 8 lakhs for institutions which were specifically Muhammadan. This figure includes the sum of Rs. 1 lakh, to which I have just alluded, as representing the estimated cost to Government of those hostels for Muhammadans which are on my pending list. In 1912-13 we allotted Rs. 3,05,399 to Muhammadan hostels and the Moslem Institute; also, as you will remember, a sum of Rs. 2,90,000 was assigned to the construction of hostels in Calcutta in connection with certain aided colleges, one of the conditions of this grant being that 20 per cent. of the seats should be reserved for Muhammadans. In 1911-12 we allotted a sum of Rs. 1,08,928 for Muhammadan hostels.

So much then for the case against Government with reference to Muhammadan education. I turn now to one or two other matters. The Hon'ble Raja Hrishikesh Laha has made a reference to the allotment of 1 lakh for manual instruction. He has complained of its inadequacy. But that is not our fault; it is the fault of the Imperial Government which made the allotment. He has also referred to the great need, as he considers it, of introducing into all secondary schools an element of manual instruction. I should only like to say that I endorse entirely what he has said, and I rejoice to find that such up-to-date and enlightened views should have fallen from his lips. This brings me to a criticism in connection with what may be called technical education.

The Hon'ble Nawab Syed Hossam Haider Chaudhuri and the Hon'ble Babu Upendra Lal Ray have referred to various projects in connection with technical education in Eastern Bengal. The Hon'ble Nawab says that the closing of certain 'B' classes, specially those in Comilla, has not been in the interests of the public service. He also deplores the decrease of Rs. 61,000 under the head of 'Engineering and Survey' and says that this money should have been used for the provincialisation of certain technical schools. The Hon'ble Babu Upendra Lal Ray has alluded to the scheme for the provincialisation of certain technical schools and the omission to provide funds for provincialising the Chittagong Victoria Technical School, and, with reference to Mr. Nathan's conference at Dacca in regard to industrial education, he has asked whether these proposals have been forgotten. First of all, as regards the 'B' classes, I entirely agree with the criticisms of the Hon'ble Nawab, but unfortunately we cannot have classes without pupils. The class at Comilla was closed before I joined the department, and I have since investigated the circumstances in which this was done. The class had come down to a very few pupils. In many cases the closing of the 'B' class was absolutely inevitable, simply because no pupils could be found willing to join the class. Then as regards Mr. Nathan's proposals for provincialising technical schools, I may say that these proposals have not been forgotten. I have visited nearly everyone of these institutions myself, but in view of the development that has taken place in the last two or three years, I have found it necessary in some cases to ask for further investigation. For example, when I went down to Chittagong to see the Victoria Technical Institution which Government had decided to provincialise, I found that the institution had ceased to exist. Thus the proposal to provincialise an existing institution had become a proposal to found an industrial school on the ashes of an institution which had failed. In these circumstances I thought it desirable to reconsider the general position.

Technical schools in Eastern Bengal and elsewhere consist mainly of three departments. There are the sub-overseer classes, survey

classes and artisan classes. The sub-overseer classes were in a flourishing condition a few years ago, but they are now moribund. In 1909-10 there were 91 candidates who sat for the Sub-overseer Examination from the five technical schools in Eastern Bengal, while last year there were only 39 candidates. In many schools, which I have visited lately, the sub-overseer class has almost ceased to exist, *e.g.*, not very long ago the Eastern Bengal and Assam Government decided to provincialise the Rangpur Technical School in order to preserve the sub-overseer classes which the District Board were inclined to abolish. Last year there was only one pupil in this class, and it seems doubtful whether there will be any at all next year. The survey classes seem to be promising, but there was some doubt whether they were to be continued in view of the proposed founding of a Survey School at Comilla. But I should like to say that I have been able to establish friendly relations with Major Hirst, and I see no reason why the survey classes in the technical schools need in any way clash with the Survey School at Comilla. The condition of the industrial classes is not very reassuring. In some cases I have examined the figures of the attendance of these classes for the last ten years, and I find little evidence that the training given in them is appreciated. Very few of the artizans who are persuaded to come to these classes to learn blacksmith's work do not stay for the whole course and many do not stay for more than a year.

The Chittagong College has been mentioned, as also its demand for extension. There again the position has been generally surveyed, and my office is working out the proposals for extending the affiliation granted to that institution. As regards the Principal's house at Chittagong the money has been taken out of the Budget. The provision of such a house is connected with a series of proposals for redistributing various Government buildings in the place. This brings me to a general remark made by the Hon'ble Dr. Sarbadhikari with reference to mufassal colleges. The Hon'ble the Vice-Chancellor of the University referred to the great desirability of developing these mufassal colleges. I should like to say that I entirely agree with him. At present we are in some difficulty, because we have no recurring Imperial grant which we can spend on these colleges, and moreover, as regards capital expenditure, I may here remind the Council that the Imperial grant for capital expenditure on colleges, secondary schools and training colleges is only 7 lakhs, while the scheme for the improvement of the Presidency College alone amounts to over 18 lakhs. The Sanskrit College has been mentioned, and that, too, I hope we shall be able to improve during the next few years. The University Institute is one of the schemes which has been hanging fire for a long time, but it will perhaps be some comfort to those Hon'ble Members who take an interest in that excellent institution to know that the declaration for the acquisition of the land which is required has already appeared in the Gazette. The Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Banerji has referred to certain grants of personal allowances to Principals of colleges and to Inspectors of Schools. The first of these is connected with a proposal which came from the Government of India in the course of last year to the effect that Principals of certain colleges should receive allowances. The proposal is still under the consideration of the Government of India, and I am therefore not in a position to say anything further on the subject. The allowances to Inspectors of Schools are connected with the scheme for compensating certain officers in the Provincial and the Indian Educational Services for such delay in their promotion as seemed likely to occur as the result of the holding up of certain proposals for the general improvement of the Service pending the report of the Public Service Commission.

I am afraid I have left many points out as I have not been able to deal with more than a few of the points that have been raised by the Hon'ble Members, but the Hon'ble Nawab Saiyid Nawab Ali Chaudhuri has said that the payment in support of local schools under District Boards stands at Rs. 2,88,560, as against Rs. 14,29,000, the decrease being due to the stoppage of the equilibrium grant on the surrender of the Public Works cess to the

District Boards. The Hon'ble Nawab asks why the payment of these grants should be stopped and suggests that this alleged stoppage will defeat the very object of the Imperial recurring assignment. The Hon'ble Member has not understood the position, which is, I admit, complicated. Originally I understand pounds and ferries were made over to District Boards as a source of income, certain responsibilities in connection with educational and medical matters being assigned to them as sources of expenditure. The income did not increase at the same pace as the expenditure, hence certain grants were given by Government, which were called equilibrium grants. These equilibrium grants were resumed when the Public Works cess was made over to District Boards. The sanctioned estimate of last year amounted to 6½ lakhs, and the Budget estimate for 1914-15 amounts to Rs. 2,88,560 only, this reduction being due to the resumption of the equilibrium grants which amounted, I understand, to about 4½ lakhs, whereas the reduction is less than 3¾ lakhs. The revised estimate for 1914-15, which amounts to Rs. 14,29,000, includes the contributions from Imperial grants which were made over to District Boards. The contributions are not included in the budget estimate under the head 'Payment in support of Local schools,' because in the budget estimate the Imperial grants are shown in lump. The figures which the Hon'ble Nawab should have compared were 6½ lakhs, namely, the sanctioned estimate for 1913-14, excluding the Imperial contributions, and Rs. 2,88,560, the Budget estimate for the current financial year, in which of course no Imperial contributions have been taken into account."

The Hon'ble Mr. KERR said :—

"My Lord, I propose merely to say a very few words regarding a few topics relating to the Revenue Department, which have been raised by some of the Hon'ble Members who have spoken in the course of this discussion.

The Hon'ble Raja Hrishikesh Laha has thanked Government for the suspensions of land revenue in Midnapore, but has expressed some doubts as to whether the provision made on this account in the budget is sufficient. The budget figures were based on the best information we could get, and I do not know whether the Hon'ble Member has any grounds for distrusting them. Anyhow I may explain that the amount of the suspensions does not depend in any way on the provision made in the budget. The revenue in the Government estates in Midnapore, which were affected by the recent floods, has been entirely suspended for a year, and no collections will be made till after the next harvest, whether the estimate made in the budget is sufficient or not. It is impossible at present to say how much of the suspended revenue will be collected next year, as all depends on the next harvest. But after the liberality which has been shown this year, the Hon'ble Member need be under no apprehension that Government will show any harshness in realizing their dues.

The Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Banerji has raised the question of Kanungos. I have very great sympathy with what he said on the subject, and what is more important, Government have the same sympathy. I am glad therefore to be able to tell the Council that a scheme for improving the pay and prospects of Kanungos is in an advanced stage of consideration, and I have every hope that orders will be issued in the next few months. So far as I can recollect, the improvement in pay will not be quite so great as the Hon'ble Member suggested, but I think I may say that it will be substantial.

The Hon'ble Nawab Saiyid Hossam Haider Chaudhuri devoted a large portion of his speech to the question of agricultural education. This is altogether too large a question to take up at the fag end of a budget debate, but the Hon'ble Nawab's remarks will receive full consideration. The question has recently come up in connection with a very full discussion which took place at the recent meeting of the Board of agriculture at Coimbatore. I should like in this connection to invite the attention of all members of this Council who are interested in agriculture to the proceedings of the Board of Agriculture. The book, I think, is published for a rupee and contains nearly

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200 closely printed foolscap pages. It forms a complete record of the activities of the Agricultural Departments in the different provinces of India and of the views of the best authority as to the lines of progress. I venture to suggest that if Hon'ble Members would refer to that publication before raising questions relating to agriculture in this Council or elsewhere, it might help our discussion to take a more practical form and lead to more useful results.

Several other Hon'ble Members have touched on the subject of agriculture, but the remarks made are for the most part of a general nature and not such as to call for any detailed comment on an occasion like this. I may fairly claim that the budget shows that Government are fully alive to the importance of the Agricultural Department in this province. The total provision made for agriculture under various heads is over 7 lakhs—a higher figure than has ever before been reached."

The Hon'ble NAWAB SYED SHAMS-UL-HUDA said :—

"My Lord, Hon'ble Members have dealt with a variety of subjects, some strictly relevant and others not so relevant to the Budget. I do not intend to deal with more than one or two matters raised in to-day's discussion. I am extremely obliged to Hon'ble Members who have put forward various suggestions for the improvement of the department of sanitation. But whereas I welcome criticism, I must say that so far as the administration of this department is concerned, we can claim that we have done all that was possible for us to do. We have not been illiberal in making grants whenever opportunities have occurred. But our complaint has been that local bodies—municipalities or District Boards—have not come forward to ask for our assistance. We have departed considerably from the practice of past years. Some years ago it was laid down as a definite policy of Government that proposals should be confined to water-supply and drainage, that projects should be on a large scale, that no grant should ordinarily be of less than half a lakh, and that the general rule should be that one-third of the whole cost should be provided by a loan—not less than one-third from other local sources including subscriptions and not more than one-third from Government grant. If anyone cares to examine in detail the grants that we have made in recent years, they will find that we have financed schemes which were not strictly in connection with water-supply and drainage, that we have financed some small schemes, and sums much smaller than Rs. 50,000 have been given to various local bodies. It will also be found that we have not confined ourselves to a proportion of one-third of the total cost—in some cases we have made grants for more than half the total amount to be spent—but with all this spirit to meet the demands of local bodies we have not been able to spend more than a portion of the money that we had budgetted for. I can say this that if we find any scheme that has come up to Government but is not carried through, it will be found that the fault does lie on the side of Government. Proposals have also been made for improvement and reconstitution of the Sanitary Board. I cannot express a definite opinion. It is possible that the Sanitary Board is capable of further improvement, but we have only very recently added three non-official members to this Board, and we are waiting to see what new light these members bring to the work of this Board, and in the light of any experience that we may gain we may consider the desirability of further improvement in the constitution of the Board.

As regards the complaint that there is no agency which can properly draw up a scheme for municipalities or District Boards, all I can say is this that recently we have framed rules laying down the duties of the Sanitary Boards and of the Sanitary Engineer. Under these rules any municipality may request a Sanitary Engineer to prepare a scheme, and for the preparation of that scheme a certain sum has to be paid. But as soon as the scheme is carried through that amount is refunded. The money is asked because we do not want that the Sanitary Engineer should be requisitioned to draw up

schemes which have no chance of being carried through, and I think that this is a very reasonable safeguard that we could impose. We have strengthened the Sanitary Department by the addition of Deputy Sanitary Commissioners, and recently we have passed a law requiring municipalities to appoint their own Health Officers and Sanitary Inspectors. This is still in an experimental stage, and we are awaiting further developments. I can assure Hon'ble Members that we have no desire to be stationary, that we have every desire to advance with the requirements of the time, and that if after a fair trial we find that something has to be done, we shall not be slow in doing it. It has been suggested that the Sanitary Board should be given authority, on their own initiative, to prepare schemes for municipalities and to see that they are carried through. I do not know what the feeling will be when that is done, and when the Sanitary Board begin to meddle with municipalities by pushing forward proposals which the municipalities do not like. I am not quite sure that the Hon'ble Member who made the suggestion will be thanked for it. We want that the local bodies should be left as far as efficiency will permit, unfettered in the exercise of their discretion, and I must say that so far as sanitary improvements are concerned, we have occasions to notice a desire to stand in the way of these improvements even when liberal grants have been offered by Government. I have found a feeling among many Municipal Commissioners that improvements of water-supply mean further taxation to the people, and that it is better to get on without it instead of having to pay money for good drinking water.

It is not Government that can bring in great sanitary improvements; these must depend entirely on the people, and so long as the feeling exists that neither good water nor good sanitary surrounding are conducive to health, I am afraid any great improvement is not possible. There is a tendency to depend a great deal upon what we call *kismet*, and the feeling is probably well voiced by the Persian poet, who says that you need never be afraid of death, for on the day on which death is ordained nothing will save you, and on the day on which it is not ordained nothing can kill you. If that is the kind of feeling with which people look at the question, no Government ever can do very much, but all that I can say to my Hon'ble friends is that at the present time we have plenty of money to spend, and if they will ask their constituents to come forward with sound schemes which are capable of being financed by Government, it will be in no niggardly spirit that those demands will be met. I do not think that I need say more on this subject.

The next question to which I would make only a short reference is the question of Muhammadan education, as to which a good deal has been said, and in regard to which a great deal of feeling has been shown. The reply which has been given by my Hon'ble friend Mr. Hornell would probably dispose of many of the misapprehensions on the subject, because I think that they are nothing more than misapprehensions. I would only say this: there is no desire on the part of the Government to be unsympathetic towards the claims of the Muhammadan community, but it must be remembered that the question of Muhammadan education is only a part and parcel of the general education of the people of the country, and that the demands on the time and attention of the Director of Public Instruction are so great that with all anxiety to examine these various important questions, he is not in a position to proceed with the same rapidity as my Hon'ble friends would wish. I have said that there is every desire to encourage Muhammadan education, and if my Hon'ble friends will only wait and see what is done, I do not think that they will have reason to be so despondent.

As regards the proposal for an Arts college in Calcutta, I can tell my Hon'ble friends that Government work takes time to mature. These schemes have to pass through various stages. Everything has to be carefully considered, everything has to be provided for, and it is only a few days ago that we have been able to calculate the cost of the scheme, recurring and non-recurring, and the accommodation that would be necessary, and we hope to proceed with it as early as we can.

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As regards the question of hostel accommodation in the vicinity of College Square, the matter is one of considerable difficulty. The difficulty has arisen in this way. There are a number of hostels which are, I believe, in course of construction or will shortly be taken up for construction. In these hostels provision has been made not only for the Hindu students but for the Muhammadan students also. As regards the hostels in connection with the City College, the Ripon College, the Scottish Churches College, and St. Xavier's College, we have one-fifth of the seats reserved for Muhammadan boys. We must see to what extent the accommodation in these hostels is availed of by Muhammadan students and what further demand there is which Government has still to meet. As regards the Presidency College, there is the further question that if a Muhammadan college is established in the Madrassa compound, how many students will resort to the Presidency College, and whether there should not be some restrictions to the admissions in the Presidency College at least as regards students taking up Art subjects, subjects as to which the new college may be affiliated. Of course there is still the question about accommodation for students of the Law College, and of the Medical College. These matters are occupying the attention of Government, but before we can make up our mind as to the extent of the accommodation necessary we have to consider the effect of the other schemes which are about to be carried through.

As regards the Madrassa reform scheme my Hon'ble friend opposite has complained that a great deal of delay has occurred in carrying this scheme through, and that we have not gone very far yet. I sympathize with my Hon'ble friend in his remarks, but the same difficulty has arisen here. In the first place, we had to take advice and consult different parts of the country as to whether they would have or would not have the reformed scheme. In my tours through the Chittagong, Rajshahi and other divisions, I consulted the leading Muhammadans as to whether they would have the reformed or adhere to the unreformed course. Then there has been a proposal that in some places we must have both. These questions we have considered, and now the scheme is before the Director of Public Instruction for further consideration. No doubt it is a difficult subject, and my Hon'ble friend will also realize that the Director of Public Instruction has not readily at his command expert advice about these matters. Therefore, what I say is this: do not be impatient, give us a chance of doing all we can, and if you find in the end that we are not up to your requirements, you can come forward with as strong an indictment as you like. I have nothing more to say on the question of Muhammadan education, although there is a good deal more which could be said; but most of the points have been met by my Hon'ble friend Mr. Hornell, and I think that his speech has convinced my Hon'ble friends that, after all, Government are not as negligent of Muhammadan interests as they are apt to think.

There is only one other point on which I would touch, and that is with reference to the Registration Department, which has been mentioned by the Hon'ble Maulvi Musharraf Husain. He bitterly complains and is prepared to shed tears for those officers of the Registration Department who have lost a long period of their service for purposes of earning their pension. One may sympathize with the feeling, but I cannot say more on the subject, because the question is one which is now under the consideration of a Royal Commission; but I may tell my friend that the hardship, if it is a hardship, is not a thing which we have created, but as a matter of fact what Government have done has been as far as possible to remove the hardship. Before 1905 there were no provisions for any pensions for sub-registrars. Since 1907 they have come under Government pay, and their services have been made pensionable. Now the complaint is that Government have not been sufficiently liberal in determining the scale of their pensions. If it is a question of sympathy, then sympathy is due to the hundreds who have retired or would retire before 1915, without any pension rather than to those few who retire in 1915 with small pensions. The whole

subject is I believe under the consideration of the Public Services Commission, and I do not think it is necessary to say more about it."

The Hon'ble SIR WILLIAM DUKE said :—

"My Lord, I am afraid my remarks must be necessarily somewhat disconnected, for it is left to me to take up all the matters that no one else has replied to.

The first subject that I have to mention is that of the Judicial Service. Attention has been drawn to the fact that only a single Munsif's residence has been provided in the present Budget. That is because most of the money available for this year has been taken up to provide a residence for a Judge. But as a matter of fact, in the last two years we have provided five Munsifs' residences each year. We have during the next four years a considerable amount available under this head of the provincial equipment, and I believe we shall be able to make similar steady if rather slow progress in supplying an admitted want.

Satisfaction has been expressed that provision has been made for raising the pay of the lowest grade of Munsif's. I would ask members to adopt an attitude of expectation on this subject. I myself have always contemplated raising the pay of the lowest grade of Munsifs since the time when the Government decided to do it in the case of the Executive Service, and that was carried through about three years ago. We thought that probably what was fair for one service would be fair to the other, and in fact, so far as the Munsifs are recruited rather older, they have an additional claim. However, we decided first to take up the grading of the whole service. We were successful in obtaining considerable advantages for them, inasmuch as the average pay has been increased, and is now higher than that of the Executive Service. It is also higher than that of the Judicial Service in any province in India except Bihar. In that case the average pay was pushed as the main argument, and it is rather difficult, after successfully using the argument of the average pay to get the grading of the whole service improved, to go back and ask for a further concession because one particular grade is underpaid. However, my opinion on the subject has not altered, and I have only to say that if the High Court choose to take the matter up and make out a case, Government will give it the fullest consideration.

The Hon'ble Nawab of Dacca made an appeal to us to reserve a certain number of vacancies in the Medical College for Muhammadans with the necessary minimum qualification, that is to say, the Matriculation. For many years it has been possible to fill all the vacancies by men with higher qualifications, and of course it is very desirable that medical students should have as much general education as possible. We have heard with pleasure of the very great advance in the last few years of Muhammadan education, and I should have hoped that by now there would be no want of Muhammadan applicants at the Medical College who have the Intermediate Arts qualification. I trust that before long there will be no lack of such applicants, and to my mind that would be by far the more satisfactory solution. We desire to see Muhammadans get their fair share of medical education, and, over and above that, we really have the necessity for a certain number of Muhammadans in our own Medical Service. We are not getting sufficient of them. It is to the interest of Government to do everything possible to push medical education amongst them. At the same time, from our point of view, it would be much more satisfactory if the men who came forward had the proper standard of education. I would rather therefore wait and see whether we do not get the men whom we expect. If however we do not, it is the case that we have reserved a certain proportion, 20 per cent. of vacancies, for men with the minimum educational qualifications for provinces where education is somewhat less advanced than in Bengal, such as Bihar and Orissa, and if it should prove to be unavoidable, perhaps out of that 20 per cent. we may be able to reserve some portion for Muhammadans.

Sir William Duke.

The question of the pay of ministerial officers has been raised by Rai Hari Mohan Chandra Bahadur. I would only remind him that the pay of all the ministerial officers in the Presidency was revised between the years 1910 to 1912. I do not of course assert that that should last for all time, and that no revision will ever be necessary. It is no doubt the case that the prices of the necessities of life still continue to rise, but I do not think that the time has come for another general revision.

The Hon'ble Member has asked for some assistance for an inquiry into the number of dependants whom ministerial officers have to support. I am afraid that such an inquiry cannot be made by Government. It will be very difficult, very uncertain, and probably infructuous. Especially where men are members of joint families, it is impossible to say how many people they have got to support, and after all, I think it would hardly be our duty to direct that the pay should be dependent on the number of people they may have to support. It is only really essential that the pay should be sufficient to keep an officer in suitable circumstances and to enable him to support an ordinary family, but if there are three or four times that number, it is hardly possible that the pay should be increased in proportion.

Another point pressed upon us was that subdivisional officers should receive some special allowance. So far as I know, amongst the officers of the status who are usually appointed to subdivisions, whether they are Civilians or Provincial, Hindus or Muhammadans, the position is very much sought after. It carries with it a free house, first class travelling allowance, whether the officer is ordinarily entitled to first class travelling allowance or not, and I am bound to say I have never found any want of men anxious for subdivisions.

The Hon'ble Babu Upendra Lal Ray asked us to do something to assure the inhabitants of Noakhali as to what their fate will be. It is impossible not to sympathize very much with the state of uncertainty and anxiety in which the people of Noakhali now are, but at the same time I hope that there will be no grave cause for apprehension for some considerable time to come. It is not likely that the operation of the erosion of the river will actually attack the town for another three or four years, and it is possible, and let us hope it is probable, that the river may turn back and never attack the town at all. All I think Government should do is to be certain in their own mind what measures they will take if the evil day comes, and how they should be carried out so as to avoid dislocation as much as possible. It would not, I think, be advantageous at present, when we are quite uncertain as to whether Noakhali will have to be evacuated at all, to designate some new place as a future head-quarters of the district. I think the principal effect of such a course would be to set up extensive speculation in land which, if the change were never to take place at all, would be really ruinous. If, therefore, Government eventually decide that it is necessary to provide a city of refuge, it will be done in reasonable time but not before the necessity really arises.

The Hon'ble Mr. Lyon is unfortunately indisposed and is not present to-day, but he wished me to refer to one or two matters which have been mentioned. I am afraid I am unable to treat them with the fullness with which he would have done, and I can only mention them briefly.

The first is the roads in the Dooars section of Jalpaiguri, which the Hon'ble Mr. Chaplin has spoken about. All that we have to say in regard to that is that on the whole the programme to be adopted by the Public Works Department will closely follow the local programme of requirements. We may not be able to provide the full amount asked for, but we do expect to provide the greater portion in the course of the next four years, and work will proceed rapidly.

Then as regards the port of Chittagong, this Government are fully alive to the importance of the port of Chittagong, at any rate to the eastern portion of the province. I think we have given sufficient proof of that, in that, although the Government of India subsidy has been cut down, we have ourselves provided Rs. 75,000 a year for the Port, although we have not in any way that direct financial interest in it which the Government of India have. Much has been heard in the past of the jealousy which was felt against Chittagong

in Calcutta. I think that hardly any feeling of that kind operates now. I think the feeling is that no amount of trade going to Chittagong would ever be likely to affect Calcutta, but I think there is a certain lukewarmness about Chittagong in Calcutta. Calcutta people are so concerned with their own immediate affairs that they are not anxious to have the trouble of looking after business at Chittagong as well. However, that is by the way. We expect very shortly from Chittagong the report of Sir Francis Spring on the inspection which he has recently made, with the local views upon it, and when we have this we shall consider what is best to be done for the Port.

On the great question of waterways also, Government have not been idle. They have just now addressed the Government of India on the subject of dredgers for the subsidiary waterways, and they are about to address them almost immediately on the project for a grand trunk canal which was drawn up last year by Mr. Lees. These, I think, are the principal matters of detail on which I desired to speak. I would like to say a few words about the general financial situation.

Much has been said about the desirability of greater financial independence. Well, we all desire that. I have referred to it myself on previous occasions, and we should feel in a stronger position if we could have more control over our own progress—if we had more revenue in our own hands. At the same time it is not reasonable to represent the situation as being worse than it is, nor to ask for what is really impossible. For instance, we have had talk of having a deficit of one crore of rupees in our present Budget. That is a very artificial manner of speaking. Our ordinary income this year is the same as our ordinary income has been, or rather, is appreciably better than it has been for a number of years. Last year and previous years we had some special gifts given to us, and were able to spend very little, and a crore remains to be spent. Because we are spending that crore in addition to our ordinary income, it is hardly a correct representation of facts to say that we are a crore in deficit. The real fact is that this year the Budget is very much what it has been before with our growing income, increasing at the rate of something like 10 or 11 lakhs a year, and our ordinary expenditure tending to expand at almost exactly the same rate. As a matter of fact there is practical equality. What there is not, and what we should like to have, is some margin for new development. Our settlement is only temporary, it comes to an end with this year, and the Government of India and ourselves will have to discuss what the permanent settlement will be. We may hope that we shall obtain some increase under the head of 'Growing revenue'. As a matter of fact, a comparatively moderate increase would probably be as much as we have a right to expect. We have to remember that after all the Government of India have their own expenditure to face—very important expenditure—and we can hardly expect it to hand over all its growing revenues to the provinces; and some of the expectations which are raised could hardly be met by any Government. For instance, there is one point which I notice specifically, and that is the demand that Government should take over the whole of the chaukidari expenditure.

This has been objected to on various different grounds, but whatever the grounds be, the point is that Government will have to pay. I still see signs of the old idea that Government, like a Fairy Godmother, is able to materialize revenue at any moment it is required for any purpose. But the fact is that even if the system of village rating ceases, the tax will still be paid and the money will have to come out of the pockets of the people. That is one of several reasons why the system has not been changed. Another reason why I have been personally opposed to the change is that people would have to pay very much more than they have paid. At present chaukidari pay is extremely low, and one reason is that as the people assess themselves they naturally see to it that it is kept low. But if Government is to take over the burden, it will have to look much more closely into the rates of pay than it has been doing in the past and will probably have to pay half as much again or even more than that. While on that subject, I am bound to say that, although I do not deny the

justice of some of the complaints about chaukidari assessment, I think that they are very disheartening when they come from those who press for the admission of the people to a larger share in the administration of their own affairs and especially for the revivification of the village system. After all, chaukidari panchayets have been chosen with great care during the last few years. They are selected from the best sort of people that can be got locally, if not by formal election, at any rate by common consent—and if their assessments in this petty matter of village taxes are as outrageous as they are represented to be, what are we to say of the capacity of these people? As a matter of fact, I do not believe that they are so bad. I think probably they sometimes fail in not taking as much out of certain people as they ought to, and that they take rather more than they should from some who are not in so good a position to pay. But I think that if there is any vitality in village life and the spirit of self-government, that sort of thing ought to cure itself.

The Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Banerji demanded that Government should take over this charge because he says the charge for "watch and ward" is one which the Government defrays in all civilized countries. Well, I think that is going rather far. In the first place, it is denying the ancient civilization of India where the local watch and ward has always been a direct charge upon the villages. In the second place, though the Hon'ble Member may consider this to be of less importance, I have always reckoned Great Britain as a part of the civilized world and there the Borough and County Police are provided by local rating. I do not say that whatever is good for England is good for India, but I do say that there is no argument from English conditions that any change is necessary in India in this respect. I think, however, that the great point is that we should hope that people will become able to manage their own affairs. I have brought the subject in at this point as showing what enormous demands are made upon Government. Probably, if we were to take over the chaukidari as a charge upon the general revenues, we should find within a year or two that it was costing us little short of a crore of rupees. We could of course bear that, if we could obtain revenue according to the sanguine expectations of the Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur, that is to say, if the Government of India gave us all the heads he wants, we should have about 2½ crores more revenue, but is anything of the sort reasonable or possible? Rather, as I have said, the best we can hope for is that at the end of this year, when we obtain our *quasi*-permanent settlement, we should secure some slight improvement in the present proportion of growing revenue which may enable us to provide not merely for the absolutely necessary expansion in our existing services but may leave a little margin for fresh developments.

My Lord, before I sit down I ought perhaps to try to put an end to the rather persistent statement that financially the Presidency of Bengal is treated in a different way from the other Presidencies. I have been at the head of the Finance Department of this Presidency since its formation, and I am unaware of what the differences are in the manner in which we are supposed to be treated, save and except that the present financial settlement is, as was inevitable, a temporary one. From next year it will be *quasi*-permanent. Still I do not think that the fact that the settlement is temporary has made any difference in the treatment of Bengal. It is also of course the case that we have not behind us the same length of tradition as the other Presidencies. We have to make our own traditions. I do not know what there is to complain of. The financial rules under which we work are exactly the same in all cases, and as far as I know, we are treated in financial matters exactly in the same way as other Presidencies."

The PRESIDENT said :—

"Gentlemen, I think that every one who wished to speak on the Budget discussion has spoken. It only remains for me to say a few words before we adjourn for some time. According to precedent I shall refer not merely to

matters dealt with in the Budget but to other matters also. First of all I thank all of you—officials and non-officials alike—for the help you have given me—help both in legislation and in administration. In the matter of legislation you have passed six bills: four of these have already become law and two more are awaiting the approval of the Governor General to become law. When we consider what has been done in cold weather sessions of Council in previous years, I believe we shall find that this output of legislation is quite up to the average. In the matter of administration my officers have all helped me as was their duty to do, but you, non-official members, have also helped me, by asking questions and by moving or speaking to resolutions, thus drawing the attention of my colleagues and myself to matters which, in your opinion, interest the people of Bengal for whose welfare it is our duty to work.

Of the Acts which we have passed into law, the Sanitary Officer's Act introduces a new feature into the provincial Municipal Act by providing for the admission of sanitary officers and inspectors in mufassal municipalities; this I hope may prove to be an improvement. By the Doveton Trust Act we hope that greater effect may be given in future to the intentions of the founder of that institution than has recently been the case. The Calcutta Municipal Loans Act was much discussed, and I do not suppose that all of you look on it as perfect, but I think we may all admit that it is a step in advance; at any rate we all hope that it may result in greater efficiency in the administration of Calcutta Municipal Finance.

The Chittagong Port Bill will, I hope, tend to enhance the prosperity of Chittagong, and I believe it meets with the approval of those of you who are most interested in that rising Port. I need say little about the Bengal Medical Bill. It does not profess to accomplish a great deal, but I hope it is a first step towards corporate and self-conscious life in the medical profession in Bengal, and that it may help that profession to be more united in future instead of being divided up, as I am afraid it has to some extent been, without much common professional feeling and with a certain amount of jealousy amongst its members.

When we come to general administration, I would call your attention to three points which well deserve your attention, as they are to some extent starting points for further advance. In the first place, we are now able to see that the Calcutta Improvement Trust is active and has begun operations. No doubt you will look carefully, as will also Government, at the actions of that Trust in future. Then there has been the Port Facilities Committee, which has been sitting lately under the chairmanship of our Vice-President. I think we may all congratulate Sir William Duke on the rapidity with which that Committee got through its work and prepared its report. We shall give close attention to the report, and I hope we shall find that it will lead to a start being made very soon on those improvements, which certainly must be effected if Calcutta is to continue to hold the prominent place which she at present holds amongst the cities of the east. Personally, I am anxiously awaiting another report, the Report of the District Administration Committee. I know that some of you do not expect as much good result as I hope for, from the appointment of that Committee; but both you and I, I am sure, realize the importance of general administration in the districts, and I believe that you will rejoice if the appointment of the Committee leads to some of the good which I expect from it.

I was glad to see how much interest was taken by all Hon'ble Members in educational matters. After what Mr. Hornell has said to-day, I need say little about this subject. I would, however, mention one point to which Mr. Hornell intended to refer, but which escaped his memory. The Hon'ble the Vice-Chancellor, Dr. Deba Prasad Sarbadhikari, yesterday expressed a desire to know about the fish-market site in northern Calcutta and was doubtful as to what was being done about securing it for the University. The site has, as a matter of fact, been already acquired by Government, and Government are prepared to give it over to the University so soon as the University shall have obtained the sanction of the Government of India to the proposals which

it is prepared to make for the use of that site and can show how it will pr vide the necessary funds. I am under the impression that this informatic has already been conveyed to the University; but if there is any point which my Hon'ble friend wishes for fuller information, Government will l only too glad to do their best to give it. I regret that my colleague, tl Hon'ble Mr. Lyon, should not be able owing to indisposition to be present to-da He has asked me to correct any impression which may exist, and I believ that such impression does exist, that the large pending balances out of tl Imperial grants indicate inability on the part of Government to utilize thes grants. The Nawab Bahadur of Dacca for one expressed a fear that this wa so. I sympathize very much with the Nawab Bahadur in his general dislik to keeping a large sum of money idle without spending it. Perhaps both l and I—certainly I—would be richer if we had not often thought alike on th matter; but be that as it may, Hon'ble Members must remember that thes large grants, for which we are very grateful, fall far short of the growin demands of this Presidency, and that therefore much care must be taken i examining the many calls on the public purse, so that Government ma choose the best and most urgent schemes on which to expend public fund It has been this consideration and not any inability to spend the mone which has led to the balances remaining unspent.

Another matter in which Mr. Lyon has been actively interested is th Burdwan flood. This flood a few months ago caused us serious anxiet There is one result of it over which we all rejoice—it showed how willing man of the people of Bengal are to work unselfishly for the good of their fellow men. But there were other results not so pleasing. Public interest in thes floods has to a great extent now died out, but it may not be out of place t tell you what the present position is. Three of the districts of the Burdwa Division, viz., Burdwan, Hooghly and Howrah, were restored to their norm condition early in the cold weather. In the Contai subdivision of the Midn pore district relief measures were more prolonged. Collections of rents we suspended in the Government estates; the chaukidari tax was remitted f three-quarters of the year; loans on a liberal scale were given to agricu turists, and special arrangements were made by the Public Works Departme to provide work for all who required it, while gratuitous relief was given t those unable to work. These measures prevented distress from ev becoming acute, and the latest reports from the area are very favourabl There is every hope that if the coming season is a good one, all traces of th late calamity will soon disappear.

Many of you have shown great interest in the means of communicatio whether by rail or by water, throughout the Presidency. Increased pro perity, growing wealth and the advance of education will make that intere grow even more. I feel sure that the Hon'ble Mr. Lyon and Government a a whole will do their best to meet all reasonable demands in this matter.

I was also glad to observe your great interest in sanitation, of which m colleague the Hon'ble Nawab Syed Shams-ul-Huda has already spoken. I this connection I would merely say that I hope you are giving close attentio to the scientific work in this connection which has been so ably done b Major Fry, by Dr. Bentley and by Major Clemesha.

One point of general administration, to which I would like to refer, is th complaint that the pay of menial servants is not what it ought to be. Th rise in the price of food has undoubtedly given good ground for this com plaint: that rise has pressed hard on many menial servants of Government I am not in a position at present to say what the recommendations are whic we are making to the Government of India, but you may take my word for i that Government are determined to improve the lot of their menial servants.

We have heard a good deal about the Police. They are much criticize and their faults have often been pointed out. Government do not profess tha the police are all that they might be; there is room for improvement although there has been much improvement and Government hope gradually to secure more. But on behalf of Government, as well as of myself, I woul like to say a word in recognition of the services which have bee

rendered by those of the police whose duty it is to deal with those crimes which we believe are political in nature. We know how dangerous and difficult it often is for those officers to perform their duty, and we admire the way in which, in spite of being themselves only too conscious of that danger, they have persevered in their task. We deplore the loss from time to time of the lives of some of our ablest and most devoted officers. I believe that you all here deplore that loss. It is the duty of Government to make provision for the dependants of those officers, and Government, I hope, will always act up to this responsibility, though this is but a small consolation. It is only from time to time that the public come to know what excellent work is done by members of the police force, and therefore I think it is but fair that I, who am constantly being reminded of the dangers which these men run, should take this opportunity of publicly expressing my admiration for their bravery. Speaking at Bombay on the 20th of March the Viceroy expressed his admiration for the heroic qualities of these men, who, as he said, 'with no watchword on their lips but duty, have steadily gone about their work, carrying, as sad experience has proved, their lives in their hands.' Like the Viceroy, I feel sure that the day will come when it will be recognized that those men have acted as bravely as any of the military heroes of whom we have so often read. If I were an Indian I should be proud to have those men as my fellow-countrymen. I am not an Indian, but as one responsible to some extent for the government of India, I am proud to know that in the service of Government there are Indians who can show such fortitude in knowingly facing danger in the execution of their duty, without any hope of great reward.

I now wish to say a few words on another matter—the state of affairs which causes this danger to which I have just referred. Speaking at Dacca last summer I said that I feared that the public of Bengal hardly realized what a risk some of the young men of Bengal were running. Much that I have learned since, makes me feel, even more than I did then, the gravity of that risk; and makes me even more anxious than I then was that all who can help by their influence to lessen that risk should do so. You, the non-official Indian members of my Council, are, I feel sure, as anxious as any one to put down political crime in the interests of your own country which you love so well. Time and again you have told me this, and I believe you. I believe you hate, as much as I hate, to read the aspersions sometimes cast in ignorance, let us hope in misinformed ignorance, on Bengal in this matter. Many of you have told me that the political situation in Bengal, and I believe you, is better than it was; there is less ill-feeling towards Government than there once was. I rejoice, and you rejoice to know that; you are loth to think—you are right to be loth to think; you are hard to convince, you are right to be hard to convince, that any of your fellow-countrymen are capable of acting as some of her detractors would have us believe that many in Bengal would like to act. But, gentlemen, evidence which has been brought before me forces me to believe, and I think must force, however reluctantly, others to believe, that there is a small number, a very small number in proportion to the whole of the population of Bengal, who are prepared to go to extremes of crime, or to make others go to extremes of crime, if only they think they can thereby do harm to the established Government. And there is a somewhat larger, but still small number of people in Bengal—young men and enthusiastic men for the most part, who, through ignorance, or perhaps I ought rather to say through incomplete knowledge, are ready to be led by those more guilty than themselves to go to any length in crime, some in the firm belief that they are acting nobly. There is again a number of persons, actually and still more relatively small, who, though not prepared themselves to act, yet have a certain sympathy varying no doubt in degree with those who are prepared to commit crimes; and who may, under pressure of some emotion, pass out of the one category into the other. Gentlemen, I believe that what I have said is true. I believe that there is a great risk that some of our boys and young men, actuated perhaps even by generous motives, may join one of these bands. I do not ask you to accept this merely on my word; and you

cannot have the evidence put before you which I have had put before me. All I ask you is to believe that there is evidence enough to make me—and I do not think I am prejudiced in any way—believe this, for I feel sure that there is not one of you who would not admit that if there are any such men as I have described, they are not only risking doing much damage to themselves but may also cause much pain to their relations, and certainly are doing grave hurt to their fellow-countrymen, for by their action they risk delaying the carrying out of reforms which will be for the good of their country. It is the duty of Government, if they be convinced that there is danger, to take such steps as they may deem necessary; but I need not dwell on that. The real cure lies in public opinion, and I do appeal most earnestly to you, who obviously can affect public opinion, to take any and every chance which may offer itself to guide the young men of your country to look on the future of their country in a way less likely to do harm to it than I fear may be the case if they listen to the persuasions of some persons who are, I believe, at present anxious to influence them.

ADJOURNMENT.

Gentlemen, I say no more, but I declare this Council adjourned *sine die.*"

A. W. WATSON,

Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal in the Lagislative Dept. and Secy. to the Bengal Legislative Council.

DARJEELING,

The 2nd May 1914.

B. S. Press—28.5.1914—72J—500—S. C. R.

Abstract of the Proceedings of the Bengal Legislative Council, assembled under the provisions of the Indian Councils Acts, 1861, 1892 and 1909, and the Government of India Act, 1912.

THE Council met in the Council Chamber in Government House on Thursday, the 2nd July, 1914, at 11 A.M.

Present :

His Excellency the Right Hon'ble THOMAS DAVID, BARON CARMICHAEL OF SKIRLING, G.C.I.E., K.C.M.G., *Governor of the Presidency of Fort William in Bengal, presiding.*

The Hon'ble SIR FREDERICK WILLIAM DUKE, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., *Vice-President.*

The Hon'ble NAWAB SYED SHAMS-UL-HUDA.

The Hon'ble MR. N. D. BEATSON-BELL, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. C. J. STEVENSON-MOORE, C.V.O.

The Hon'ble MR. F. J. MONAHAN.

The Hon'ble MR. J. G. CUMMING, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. J. H. KERR, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. H. L. STEPHENSON, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. H. F. SAMMAN.

The Hon'ble MR. H. H. GREEN.

The Hon'ble LT.-COL. A. C. DEL. JOLY DE LOTBINIÈRE, C.S.I., C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. A. H. CUMING.

The Hon'ble MR. C. H. BOMPAS.

The Hon'ble MR. B. C. MITRA.

The Hon'ble MR. W. W. HORNELL.

The Hon'ble MR. C. F. PAYNE.

The Hon'ble RAI PRIYA NATH MUKHARJI BAHADUR

The Hon'ble MR. A. N. MOBERLY.

The Hon'ble MR. H. J. HILARY.

The Hon'ble DR. NILRATAN SARKAR.

The Hon'ble RAJA HRISHIKESH LAHA, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. R. GLEN.

The Hon'ble SIR BIJAY CHAND MAHTAB, K.C.S.I., K.C.I.E., I.O.M., Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan.

The Hon'ble RAJA SHOSHI KANTA ACHARYYA CHAUDHURI BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble DR. DEBA PRASAD SARBADHIKARI, C.I.E.

[*President.*]

Oath or affirmation of Allegiance—Questions and Answers.

The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble MR. F. H. STEWART.

The Hon'ble MR. W. T. GRICE.

The Hon'ble MR. G. A. BAYLEY.

The Hon'ble MR. GOLAM HOSSEIN CASSIM ARIFF.

The Hon'ble MAULVI MAZHARUL ANWAR CHAUDHURI.

The Hon'ble MAULVI MUSHARRAF HUSAIN.

The Hon'ble MAULVI A. K. FAZ-UL-HAQ.

The Hon'ble NAWAB SAIYID HOSSAM HAIDER CHAUDHURI, KHAN BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble MAHARAJA RANAJIT SINHA of Nashipur.

The Hon'ble RAI NALINAKSHA BASU BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble RAJA MAHENDRA RANJAN RAY CHAUDHURI.

The Hon'ble NAWAB SAIYID, NAWAB ALI CHAUDHURI, KHAN BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI.

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH RAY.

The Hon'ble BABU MAHENDRA NATH RAY, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble RAI HARI MOHAN CHANDRA BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble CHAUDHURI MUHAMMAD ISMAIL KHAN.

The Hon'ble BABU UPENDRA LAL RAY.

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 1.

OATH OR AFFIRMATION OF ALLEGIANCE.

The Hon'ble Mr. A. H. Cuming, the Hon'ble Mr. Moberly, the Hon'ble Chaudhuri Muhammad Ismail Khan and the Hon'ble Mr. Stewart made an Oath or Affirmation of their Allegiance to the Crown.

His Excellency the President said :—

"Gentlemen of the Council—

Before we proceed further with the business that is before us, I should like to read to you the following letter which has been received by the Secretary to the Council."

INDIA OFFICE ;
Whitehall, the 27th May, 1914.

SIR,

I am desired by the Countess of Minto to convey through you to the Council her thanks for your letter of the 7th April last and her grateful acknowledgments to the members for their kind expression of sympathy with her in her bereavement.

I am,

Truly yours,
J. R. DUNLOP SMITH.

[*Babu S. N. Banerji; Mr. Cumming; Maulvi M. Husain; Mr. Samman; Babu S. N. Ray.*]

STARRED QUESTIONS.

LIST OF BUSINESS ITEM—No. 2.

By the Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI :—

Attendance of Government servants at political Meeting.

*1. (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Mr. Emerson, Magistrate and Collector of Tippera, expressed the opinion that it was undesirable for Government servants to attend the meeting of the Social Conference held at Comilla on the 13th April last?

(*b*) Are the Government aware that a great deal of misconception prevails as to the exact significance of the orders passed by Government during the Viceroyalty of Lord Lansdowne regarding the attendance of Government servants at political meetings?

(*c*) If so, are the Government considering the desirability of re-circulating those orders?

The Hon'ble MR. CUMMING replied :—

(*a*) "It is not a fact that Mr. Emerson, Magistrate and Collector of Tippera, expressed the opinion that it was undesirable for Government servants to attend the meeting of the Social Conference held at Comilla on 13th April last. On the contrary, Mr. Emerson informed several of his officers who consulted him that he personally had no objection to their attendance at both the Provincial and the Social Conference and that they should be guided by the rules of Government applicable to such cases.

(*b*) and (*c*) The orders regarding the attendance of Government servants at political meetings are contained in rule 20 of the Government Servants' Conduct Rules, 1904 (corrected up to 1st January, 1912). This rule is based on the orders issued by the Government of India in 1890, to which the Hon'ble Member refers. Government are not aware that any misconception exists regarding the significance of this rule. Government do not intend to re-issue the orders, as copies of the latest edition of the Government Servants' Conduct Rules were circulated to Government officers last year."

By the Hon'ble MAULVI MUSHARRAF HUSAIN :—

Sanitary Schemes in Mufassal Municipalities.

*2. In connection with this year's Budget allotments for Sanitation, will the Government be pleased to state whether the Sanitary Inspectors in Mufassal Municipalities have been asked to draw up schemes for the improvement of their respective Municipalities?

The Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN replied :—

"The answer is in the negative."

By the Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH RAY :—

The case of Meredith.

*3. (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state the total amount spent in defending the case of Sanjibani Dassi against Mr. Meredith, a bailiff in the Calcutta Small Cause Court?

(*b*) What was the offence with which the bailiff was charged?

(*c*) Will the Government be pleased to state—

(*i*) the number of days on which the case was heard in the Court of Mr. Keays and in the Court of the Chief Presidency Magistrate respectively;

[*Babu S. N. Ray; Mr. Cumming; Mr. Kerr; Maharaja R. Sinha of Nashipur; Mr. Samman.*]

By the Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH RAY :—*concld.*

(*ii*) the number of witnesses examined on behalf of the prosecution and of the defence at each trial; and

(*iii*) how many Counsel and how many pleaders were engaged on behalf of the defence at the expense of Government at each trial?

(*d*) what was the result of the re-trial before the Chief Presidency Magistrate?

The Hon'ble MR. CUMMING replied :—

(*a*) "The total amount spent in defending the case has been Rs. 42,129.

(*b*) Mr. Meredith was charged with voluntarily causing hurt to Sanjibani Dassi by dragging and throwing her down and also kicking her on the 31st January, 1913, at Juggernath Soori's Lane, in Calcutta, an offence punishable under section 323, Indian Penal Code.

(*c*) (*i*) Nineteen in the Court of Mr. Keays, and thirty days in the Court of the Chief Presidency Magistrate.

(*ii*) At the first trial 10 prosecution and 9 defence witnesses were examined; at the second trial 8 prosecution and 16 defence witnesses were examined.

(*iii*) Two Counsel and one pleader were engaged at each trial. In the proceedings for revision in the High Court one Counsel and one Vakil were engaged.

(*d*) The result of the re-trial before the Chief Presidency Magistrate was that Mr. Meredith was convicted under section 323, Indian Penal Code, and sentenced to pay a fine of Rs. 50, or in default to a fortnight's simple imprisonment."

By the Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH RAY :—

amend- Bengal Act of right of

*4. Will the Government be pleased to state whether it is intended to introduce any provision in the Bengal Tenancy Act (Act VIII of 1885) so as to make a right of occupancy transferable and binding on the landlord, or any provision similar to section 31 of the Orissa Tenancy Act (Bihar and Orissa Act II of 1913)?

The Hon'ble MR. KERR replied :—

"The question of legislating on the subject of the transfer of occupancy rights is at present under the consideration of Government, and the public bodies interested will shortly be consulted on the subject."

By the Hon'ble MAHARAJA RANAJIT SINHA OF NASHIPUR :—

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*5. Will the Government be pleased to state in what Municipalities in the Presidency schemes for water-works and drainage have been completed and whether the Government are having such schemes prepared for the remaining Municipalities?

The Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN replied :—

"Two statements (A and B), embodying the information for which the Hon'ble Member asks, are laid upon the table."

[*Mr. Samman.*]

Statement (A).

WATERWORKS.

Works carried out.	Works under construction.	Detailed schemes prepared.	Detailed schemes under preparation.	Sketch projects prepared.	Sketch projects under preparation.	Sketch projects about to be taken up.
Burdwan.	Burdwan Extension.	Kalna.	Krishnagar.	Midnapore	Raniganj	Garden Reach Extension
Serampur	Bankura.	Asansol.	Satkhira.	Tamluk.	Chandpur, South Extension.	
Howrah.	Hooghly-Chinsura.	Uttarpara.		Kumarhatti.†	Pabna.	
Cossipur-Chitpur.	Howrah Extension.	Berhampur Extension		South Dum-Dum *		
Maniktolla.	Chittagong.	Narainganj Extension.		North Dum-Dum.*		
South Suburban		Mymensingh Extension.		South Barrackpur.*		
Tollygunge		Nator		Panihati.		
Garden Reach.				North Barrackpur *		
Titagarh				Halisahar		
Garulia.				Ranaghat.		
Naihati				Murshidabad.		
Bhatpara.				Dacca Extension.		
Berhampur				Madaripur.		
Jessore.				Barisal Extension		
Khulna				Comilla		
Dacca.				Chandpur, North.		
Narainganj.				Tangail.†		
Mymensingh				Noakhali		
Faridpur.				Rampur-Boalia (general estimate only).		
Barisal				English Bazar		
Pirojpur.				Jhalakati		
Chandpur South.				Riparian Municipalities.		
Darjeeling						
Kurseong						
Total 24	Total 5	Total 7	Total 2	Total 22	Total 3	Total

* Included in the Riparian Water-supply Scheme
† Rough project prepared by Eastern Bengal and Assam Government.

Statement (B).

DRAINAGE WORKS.

Works carried out.	Works under construction.	Detailed schemes prepared.	Detailed schemes under preparation.	Sketch projects prepared.	Sketch projects under preparation.	Sketch projects about to be taken up.
Uttapara.	Burdwan Contract No. 1.	Garden Reach (Central).	Coedpur-Chitpur.	Burdwan Contract No. 2.	Sonamukhi.	Kandi.
Howrah.	Bankura.	Azimganj.	Garden Reach (Eastern portion).	Kalna.	Serampur.	Comilla.
Baranagore.	Bhadreswar.	Jessore.		Ramganj.	South Suburban.	Nawabganj.
Barnipur.	Katwa.	Tangail.		Asansol.	Halisahar.	
Titagh r.	Baranagore Outfall.			Suri.	Nadia.	
Garulia.	Bhatpara Outfall.			Midnapur.	Muktagacha.	
Barasat.	Kustia.			Tamluk.	Madaripur.	
Bhatpara	Ranaghat.			Hooghly-Chinsura.	Brahmanbaria.	
Basirhat.				Manikkola.	Jamalpur.	
Budge-Budge.				Kamarhati		
Berhampur				Tollygunge.		
Khulna				Rajpur.		
Darjeeling.				South Dum-Dum.		
Kurseong				North Dum-Dum.		
English Bazar.				North Barrackpur.		
				Naihati		
				Krishnagar.		
				Santipur.		
				Kumarkhali.		
				Chakdah.		
				Murshidabad.		
				Dacca.		
				Mymensingh.		
				Netrakona.		
				Faridpur.		
				Chandpur.		
				Dinajpur.		
				English Bazar Improvement.		
				Rangpur.		
Total ... 15	Total ... 8	Total ... 4	Total . 2	Total ... 29	Total . 9	Total ... 3

By the Hon'ble MAULVI MAZHARUL ANWAR CHAUDHURI :—

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*6. (a) Will the Government be pleased to state whether Mr. Addams-Williams has as yet submitted the report which the Hon'ble Mr. Finnimore, in his speech in Council on the 3rd March last, said the Government were awaiting before finally deciding upon a scheme to prevent or mitigate the ravages caused by the floods in the country on the right bank of the Damodar river ?

(b) If the report has been received, will the Government be pleased to lay it on the table ?

(c) If the report has not yet been received, will the Government be pleased to state when they expect to get it ?

The Hon'ble LT.-COL. JOLY DE LOTBINIÈRE replied :—

"The Report of Mr. Addams-Williams has not yet reached Government, but is expected very shortly."

[*Maulvi M. A. Chaudhuri; Mr. Green; Mr. Kerr; Nawab Saiyid H. H. Chaudhuri; Mr. Cumming.*]

By the Hon'ble MAULVI MAZHARUL ANWAR CHAUDHURI :—

*7. (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether the correspondence between the Government and the East Indian Railway Company about the inconvenience caused to the travelling public by the flooding of the sub-way leading to the Bandel Station has resulted in the Railway Company devising any plan to remove the inconvenience? Flooding sub way I Bandel sta

(*b*) If so, will the Government be pleased to state what that plan is and when it is proposed to put it into execution?

The Hon'ble MR. GREEN replied :—

(*a*) & (*b*) "The question of the best means of remedying the inconvenience referred to is still under investigation. In the meantime the Agent, East Indian Railway, has taken steps to ensure that the subway will be kept as dry as possible during the rains."

By the Hon'ble MAULVI MAZHARUL ANWAR CHAUDHURI :—

*8. (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether their attention has been drawn to the judgment of a Full Bench of the Calcutta High Court, delivered by His Lordship the Chief Justice on the 2nd June, 1914, in which it is stated that the uncertainty of the existing law as to the transferability of occupancy holdings has been one of the most fruitful sources of litigation and that it is urgently necessary that the matter should be set at rest by legislation? Uncert existing the tran of occupa ngs.

(*b*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether they are undertaking any legislation in this connection, and if so, when?

The Hon'ble MR. KERR replied :—

(*a*) "Yes.

(*b*) The question of legislating on the subject of the transfer of occupancy rights is at present under the consideration of Government, and the public bodies interested will shortly be consulted on the subject. It is not possible at present to say when a Bill will be introduced in this Council."

By the Hon'ble NAWAB SAIYID HOSSAM HAIDER CHAUDHURI, KHAN BAHADUR :—

*9. (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether it has not always been the practice to post a Muhammadan Munsif at the Sadar station of the district of Tippera? Posti Muha Munsif Sadar the Tippera

(*b*) Are the Government considering any change in this practice?

The Hon'ble MR. CUMMING replied :—

(*a*) "It has not always been the practice to post a Muhammadan Munsif to the Sadar station of the district of Tippera.

(*b*) Government must consider the needs of the Presidency as a whole and cannot undertake to post any particular officers always to particular places."

By the Hon'ble NAWAB SAIYID HOSSAIN HAIDER CHUDHURI, KHAN BAHADUR.

*10. (*a*) Are the Government aware that the present accommodation provided for the Civil Courts at Comilla, the head-quarters station of the Tippera district, is insufficient and inadequate, and is the cause of great inconvenience to the judicial and ministerial officers of the Courts, and to the legal profession and the litigant public? Inad commo the Civ Comill

(*b*) Is it not a fact that Government have received, from time to time, representations on the subject from successive District Judges and the public?

(*c*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether they are taking any measures to remove these inconveniences?

[*Mr. Cumming; Babu S. N. Banerji; Mr. Samman; Babu M. N. Ray; Mr. Kerr; Babu U. L. Ray.*]

The Hon'ble MR. CUMMING replied :—

(*a*) "Government are aware that the accommodation provided for the Civil Courts at Comilla is susceptible of improvement.

(*b*) District Judges have from time to time submitted proposals on the subject.

(*c*) Certain improvements were carried out in 1912-13. An extension to the Record-room is now in progress. Certain other schemes have been approved by Government as desirable and will be carried out as soon as funds are available. The question of the accommodation required for Civil Courts throughout the Presidency is now under the consideration of Government."

By the Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI:—

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*11. (*a*) Is it a fact that Mr. Stapleton, Inspector of Schools in the Dacca Division, has recently issued notices on the Dacca Jubilee Schools and the Mrityunjay School and City Collegiate Schools at Mymensingh to reduce the number of boys in these schools?

(*b*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether these notices are in accordance with the Regulations of the University on the subject?

(*c*) Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table the text of these notices?

The Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN replied :—

(*a*) "It has been ascertained that the serious overcrowding in the Dacca Jubilee School and the Mrityunjay and City Collegiate Schools at Mymensingh is now engaging the attention of the Inspector of Schools, Dacca Division, but no notices ordering a reduction in the number of boys in these schools have issued.

(*b*) & (*c*) These questions do not arise."

By the Hon'ble BABU MAHENDRA NATH RAY :—

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*12. (*a*) Has the attention of the Government been drawn to the recent Full Bench Decision of the Calcutta High Court regarding the transferability of occupancy holdings in Bengal, and to the expression of opinion by His Lordship the Chief Justice that the uncertainty of the law on the point should be set at rest by the Legislature?

(*b*) Are the Government considering the amendment of the Bengal Tenancy Act (Act VIII of 1885) accordingly?

The Hon'ble MR. KERR replied :—

"The Hon'ble Member is referred to the answer given to the question put on the same subject by the Hon'ble Maulvi Mazharul Anwar Chaudhuri."

By the Hon'ble BABU UPENDRA LAL RAY :—

the Pro- tive

*13. Will the Government be pleased to state whether they are proposing to regrade the cadre of the Provincial Executive Service as has been done in the case of the Judicial Service?

The Hon'ble MR. CUMMING replied :—

"No such proposal is at present under the consideration of Government."

[*Babu U. L. Ray; Mr. Samman; Maharaja R. Sinha of Nashipur; Nawab Saiyid Nawab A. Chaudhuri.*]

By the Hon'ble BABU UPENDRA LAL RAY :—

*14. In regard to the Chandpur High English School in the district of Tippera, will the Government be pleased to state— Char English

(*a*) why the site for the school (with the structures thereon) has been sold,

(*b*) whether a new site for the school has been selected and acquired.

(*c*) whether the Government have refused to provincialize the school, and, if so, why?

The Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN replied :—

(*a*) "The sale of the site and building of the Hasan Ali Jubilee High School at Chandpur was sanctioned because the school was situated in the heart of the town, there was no play-ground for the students and no room for the construction of hostels, and the Public Works Department had condemned the building as liable to be damaged by storms.

(*b*) It has been ascertained that the Director of Public Instruction is in correspondence with the local educational officers about the selection of a new site.

(*c*) No proposal for the provincialization of the school has yet been received by Government."

By the Hon'ble MAHARAJA RANAJIT SINHA OF NASHIPUR :—

*15. (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether any arrangement for imparting education to *zenana* ladies has been made in the district of Murshidabad? Educ *zenana* district abad.

(*b*) If so, how many teachers have been appointed for that purpose?

The Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN replied :—

(*a*) "Provision has been made for *zenana* education in the district of Murshidabad.

(*b*) Five *zenana* teachers are employed for the purpose."

By the Hon'ble NAWAB SAIYID NAWAB ALI CHAUDHURI, KHAN BAHADUR :—

*16. Will the Government be pleased to state— Host Muhi Studen

(*i*) what districts and sub-divisional headquarters in the Presidency are still without hostels for Muhammadan students, and

(*ii*) what allotments have been made for the construction of hostels for Muhammadan students at such places?

The Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN replied :—

(*i*) "A statement is laid on the table.

(*ii*) Land has been acquired for a hostel at Munshiganj at a cost of Rs. 673-15-11 and a sum of Rs. 5,300 has been sanctioned for the building.

A grant of Rs. 22,947 was made by the late Government of Eastern Bengal and Assam for the construction of a hostel at Patuakhali.

Proposals are under consideration for three more hostels, as will be seen from the statement."

[*Mr. Samman.*]

Statement referred to in the answer by the Hon'ble Mr. Samman to question No. 16 (starred) asked by the Hon'ble Nawab Saiyid Nawab Ali Chaudhuri, Khan Bahadur, at the Council Meeting of the 2nd July, 1914, showing the names of District and Subdivisional Headquarters which are still without Hostels for Muhammadan students.

Division.	District.	Subdivisional Headquarters.	REMARKS.
Presidency Division ...	24-Parganas ...	Alipur.	
		Barrackpur.	
		Diamond Harbour.	
	Nadia	Krishnagar.	
		Ranaghat.	
	Murshidabad ...	Sadar.	
	Jessore	Jhenidah.	
	Khulna	Bagerhat.	
		Satkhira.	
Burdwan Division ...	Burdwan ...	Burdwan (district headquarters).	A scheme for constructing a Muhammadan Hostel is under consideration.
		Kalna.	
		Asansol.	
	Bankura ...	Vishnupur.	
	Birbhum ...	Suri (district headquarters)	
	Midnapore ...	Midnapur (district headquarters).	There is one Hostel attached to the Meanp Training School.
		Contai	
		Tamluk.	
		Ghatal.	
	Howrah ...	Howrah (district headquarters)	
		Uluberia.	
	Hooghly ...	Serampore.	
Dacca Division ...	Dacca	Narayanganj ...	Proposals are under consideration.
		Munshiganj.	
	Faridpur ...	Madaripur.	
		Goalundo ...	Proposals are under consideration.
	Bakarganj ...	Patuakhali.	
Chittagong Division ...	Chittagong Hill Tracts	Rangamati.	
Rajshahi Division ...		Serajganj.	
		Gaibanda	
		Alipur Duars.	
		Kurseong.	

[*Dr. D. P. Sarbadhikari; Mr. Samman.*]

By the Hon'ble Dr. DEBA PRASAD SARBADHIKARI :—

*17. (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether the Provincial and Subordinate Educational Services of the late Government of Eastern Bengal and Assam and the Government of Bengal have been amalgamated since the reply of the Hon'ble Mr. Kerr to my questions on the same subjects asked on the 2nd April, 1913? Amal the Pr Subordi tional Eastern ern Ben

(*b*) If the Provincial and Subordinate Educational Departments have not yet been amalgamated, will the Government be pleased to state—

(*i*) the reasons for the delay,

(*ii*) when such amalgamation may be expected, and

(*iii*) how the want of such amalgamation has hitherto affected the members of the services concerned in the matter of their promotion?

The Hon'ble Mr. Samman replied :—

(*a*) "The answer is in the affirmative.

(*b*) In view of answer (*a*) above the question does not arise."

By the Hon'ble Dr. Deba Prasad Sarbadhikari :—

*18. (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to furnish a statement of the existing vacancies in the Provincial and Subordinate Educational Services? Vacan Provinci Subordi cational

(*b*) Will the Government be pleased to state why the vacancies have not been filled up, and when they are likely to be filled up?

The Hon'ble Mr. Samman replied :—

(*a*) "A statement showing the vacancies that existed at the beginning of this year is laid on the table.

(*b*) Promotions to fill the vacancies had to await orders on the combination of the cadres of Bengal and Eastern Bengal and Assam and the formation of the nominal rolls for the new Presidency. These orders have now been passed and the existing vacancies will be filled up immediately."

[*Mr. Samman.*]

Statement referred to in the answer by the Hon'ble Mr. Samman to question No. 18 (starred) asked by the Hon'ble Dr. Deba Prosad Sarbadhikari, at the Council meeting of the 2nd July, 1914, showing the vacancies in the Provincial Educational Service and Subordinate Educational Service.

Provincial Eductional Service.

lass.	Number of vacancies.	REMARKS.
I	1	
II	2	
III	2	
IV	4	
V	4	
VI	4	
	—	
	TOTAL ... 17	
	against	
VII	2	In excess.
VIII	6	Do.
	Subordinate Educational Service.	
I	7	
II	14	
III	7	
IV	4	
V	30	
VI	30	
VII	28	
	—	
	TOTAL ... 120	
	against	
VIII	71	In excess.

[*Babu S. N. Banerji; Mr. Cumming; Maulvi M. A. Chaudhuri.*]

By the Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI :—

*19. (*a*) Has the attention of the Government been drawn to a case of assault committed by Captain Walker, late Cantonment Magistrate of Barrackpur, upon a servant in the employ of Mr. Justice Woodroffe who was then residing at Barrackpur?

Resem of Captai as a Ca Magistrat

(*b*) Is it the case that the Magistrate admitted having committed the assault and expressed his regret for it?

(*c*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether they propose again to employ Captain Walker as a Cantonment Magistrate in Bengal?

The Hon'ble MR. CUMMING replied :—

(*a*) "The answer is in the affirmative.

(*b*) Government have no information beyond a statement contained in a petition filed by the servant in the Court of the Sessions Judge, 24-Parganas, in which he stated that Captain Walker had expressed to the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Woodroffe his regret of the assault on the petitioner.

(*c*) Government are not in a position to make any statement on the future appointment of Cantonment Magistrates. Appointments are made when vacancies occur."

By the Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI :—

*20. (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether the Cantonment Magistrate of Barrackpur is also the Secretary to the Cantonment Committee, and, as such, initiates all criminal and cantonment cases which as Cantonment Magistrate he himself tries?

Vestin Divisiona of E with all powers n in the C Magistrat

(*b*) If so, are the Government considering the propriety of relieving the Cantonment Magistrate of all judicial powers and vesting them in the Sub-Divisional Officer?

The Hon'ble MR. CUMMING replied :—

(*a*) "The Cantonment Magistrate of Barrackpur is also Secretary to the Cantonment Committee. His sanction as Secretary of the Committee is required to the initiation of proceedings for offences under the Cantonment Act, and such cases are tried by him as Cantonment Magistrate. The actual tendency of this system is to prevent frivolous or vexatious prosecutions.

(*b*) The answer is in the negative."

By the Hon'ble MAULVI MAZHARUL ANWAR CHAUDHURI :—

*21. Will the Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) what was the total cost of maintaining the village chaukidars and Daffadars in Bengal in the year 1913-14?

Villag dars and in Bengi

(*b*) what was the amount of chaukidari tax realized in that year?

(*c*) what was the amount realized during the said year as revenue of the resumed chaukidari chakran lands from the Zemindars with whom these lands were settled?

The Hon'ble MR. CUMMING replied :—

(*a*) & (*b*) "The total assessment of chaukidari tax for the whole province is fifty-nine and a half lakhs of rupees. Government have no material at hand for stating what was the exact amount realized in 1913-14.

(*c*) The revenue from resumed chaukidari chakran lands during 1913-14 amounted to about two and a quarter lakhs of rupees."

[*Mr. B. Chakravarti; Mr. Kerr; Maulvi M. Husain; Mr. Green.*]

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS.

By the Hon'ble MR. B. CHAKRAVARTI :—

ent of of the Parga-

I.—(*a*) Will the Government be pleased to inform the Council whether the rent of the tenants of Pargana Silda in the district of Midnapore has been ordered to be settled under section 112 of the Bengal Tenancy Act (Act VIII of 1885)?

(*b*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether the provisions of section 112 of the Bengal Tenancy Act were ever applied before with regard to any estate in Bengal? If so, to which estate and when?

(*c*) Will the Government be pleased to inform the Council on what materials, if any, the Government applied for sanction of the Governor General in Council to apply the provisions of section 112 of the Bengal Tenancy Act to the Silda Pargana?

The following reply by the Hon'ble MR. KERR was laid on the table :—

(*a*) "Yes.

(*b*) Action under section 112 of the Bengal Tenancy Act has been taken in respect of 107 villages in the Rampur Hât subdivision of the district of Birbhum. The orders were passed in August, 1912, and the proceedings are still in progress.

(*c*) The application for the sanction of the Governor General in Council was made after consideration of very full reports submitted by the Settlement Officer of Midnapore and the Director of Land Records, and of a letter addressed by Messrs. Andrew Yule and Company, Managing Agents of the Midnapore Zamindari Company, to the Settlement Officer, showing cause against the application of the section to the area."

By the Hon'ble MAULVI MUSHARRAF HUSAIN :—

dhuganj a) Rail-

II.—(*a*) Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table the papers relating to the Sara-Sadhuganj (*viâ* Pabna) Railway Scheme and to state what progress has been made in carrying out the said scheme?

(*b*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether any other scheme connecting Pabna town with a Railway Station is in contemplation, and if so, to indicate the alignment proposed for such scheme?

The following reply by the Hon'ble MR. GREEN was laid on the table :—

(*a*) "Government do not propose to lay any papers relating to the scheme on the table. In February last the Railway Board informed this Government that instructions would be issued for an investigation during the next working season of the best alignment for a branch railway on the 5′ 6″ gauge from Ishardi (near Sara) to Sadhuganj *viâ* Pabna and Bera to open out that part of the Pabna district lying between Ishardi and Sadhuganj.

(*b*) Besides the Ishardi-Sadhuganj project there are no other schemes for connecting the town of Pabna with a Railway Station at present in contemplation."

By the Hon'ble MAULVI MUSHARRAF HUSAIN :—

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III.—Are the Government aware of the inconvenience which is incurred by the public of Pabna owing to the lack of adequate means of communication between that place and the adjoining districts; and, if so, will the Government be pleased to state what action they are taking with a view to remedy this state of affairs?

[*Mr. Green; Maulvi M. Husain; Mr. G. H. C. Ariff; Mr. Samman.*]

The following reply by the Hon'ble MR. GREEN was laid on the table :—

"Yes. The Railway Board were moved by this Government to sanction the survey, by the agency of Messrs. Martin & Co., of a light railway on the 2′ 6″ gauge from Ishardi to Sadhuganj *viâ* Pabna and Bera. The Railway Board, however, considered that the area might be best served by a branch on the 5′ 6″ gauge connecting with the Sara-Serajganj Railway, and pending the investigation during the next working season of the best alignment for such a railway, Messrs. Martin & Co. were advised not to proceed with their project for a narrow gauge line."

By the Hon'ble MAULVI MUSHARRAF HUSAIN :—

IV.—(*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether they have at present under consideration a proposal to increase the pay of the establishments employed under Rural Sub-Registrars? Inc pay tablisl Rural trars.

(*b*) If so, from what date is the scheme likely to take effect?

The following reply by the Hon'ble MR. KERR was laid on the table :—

(*a*) & (*b*) "Proposals for increasing the pay of establishments under Rural Sub-Registrars have been drawn up by the Inspector-General of Registration and will shortly be submitted to the Government of India. It is not possible at present to say from what date the scheme, if sanctioned by the Government of India, will take effect."

By the Hon'ble Mr. G. H. C. ARIFF :—

V.—(*a*) Will the Government be pleased to say what amount has been allotted this year by the Government of India to the Government of Bengal for education? Im for Benga

(*b*) What amount out of that grant has been reserved for the education of Muhammadan boys and girls?

The following reply by the Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN was laid on the table :—

(*a*) "A grant of Rs. 1,50,000 has been made by the Government of India during the current financial year for education in the Presidency of Bengal in addition to grants already made.

(*b*) Out of this grant a sum of Rs. 84,000 has been allocated for expenditure on the education of Muhammadan boys. No amount has been reserved out of this grant for the education of Muhammadan girls. There is, however, a separate allotment for the education of Muhammadan girls which consists of three separate grants, viz.—

(1) Rs. 1,07,000 made in 1912-13.
(2) Rs. 1,07,000 made in 1913-14.
(3) Rs. 30,000 made in 1913-14.

The distribution of the first grant of 1912-13 was settled last year and no specific sum was set apart for Muhammadan girls. Out of the other two grants, amounting to Rs. 1,37,000, a sum of Rs. 32,000 has been set aside specifically for Muhammadan institutions, *e.g.*, special schools for Muhammadan girls and a training school for Muhammadan teachers. This sum by no means represents all the benefit that the Muhammadan community will derive from these grants, as Muhammadans will participate with other classes in the allotments set aside for the general development of female education. The question of replacing by Provincial grants the grants now made to Madrasas from the Mohsin Fund and devoting the money so set free to the furtherance of the education of Muhammadans in ordinary schools is now engaging the attention of Government."

By the Hon'ble MR. G. H. C. ARIFF :—

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VI.—(*a*) Is there any order of Government under which one of the posts of Inspector of Registration Offices must be held by a Muhammadan?

(*b*) If so, will the Government be pleased to say why no effect was given to this order in filling up the vacancy caused by the recent retirement of Maulvi Abdul Aziz?

(*c*) Will the Government be pleased to say whether the claims of Muhammadans were considered when the vacancy caused by the reversion of the third Inspector of Registration Offices, Babu Paresh Chandra Dutt, to the post of District Sub-Registrar, was filled up?

(*d*) If not, why not?

The following reply by the Hon'ble MR. KERR was laid on the table :—

(*a*), (*b*), (*c*) & (*d*).—"There is no rule or order under which one of the posts of Inspector of Registration Offices must be held by a Muhammadan. Appointments are ordinarily made by selection from among the District Sub-Registrars of suitable standing and experience. The claims of various officers, both Hindu and Muhammadan, were duly considered in connection with the recent vacancy.

A Muhammadan officer was offered an Inspectorship, but his health prevented him from accepting the appointment."

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VII.—(*a*) Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing the number of Muhammadan Marriage Registration offices and the number of Sub-Registry offices in existence in Bengal during the financial year 1912-13?

(*b*) Will the Government be pleased to say whether every one of these offices was inspected by an Inspector once during that year?

The following reply by the Hon'ble MR. KERR was laid on the table :—

(*a*) "There were 273 Muhammadan Marriage Registration offices and 392 Sub-Registry offices in this Presidency in the year 1913.

(*b*) Inspectors of the Registration Department inspected 46 Muhammadan Marriage Registration offices during the financial year 1912-13 and 233 Sub-Registry offices during the calendar year 1913."

By the Hon'ble MAHARAJA RANAJIT SINHA OF NASHIPUR :—

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VIII.—Will the Government be pleased to state in which district (if any) the experiment of jungle-cutting is to be undertaken for sanitary purposes?

The following reply by the Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN was laid on the table :—

"The Provincial Malaria Committee has not been able to formulate a definite scheme of jungle-cutting and considers that the money allotted for this purpose might be more profitably spent on anti-malaria experiments of a different nature. It is, therefore, not proposed to make the experiment on jungle-cutting at present."

By the Hon'ble MAHARAJA RANAJIT SINHA OF NASHIPUR :—

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IX.—(*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether there is any difference between the respective qualifications of Professors and Lecturers in the Provincial and Subordinate Educational Services?

(*b*) If not, are the Government proposing to nclude Lecturers in the Provincial Service?

[*Mr. Samman ; Maharaja R. Sinha of Nashipur ; Mr. Cumming.*]

The following reply by the Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN was laid on the table :—

(*a*) & (*b*).—"The answer is in the affirmative. Professors in the Provincial Educational Service are recruited from among men of special qualifications ; for instance, 1st class M.A.'s or M.Sc.'s, Prem Chand Roy Chand Scholars, or holders of European degrees, or men with considerable teaching experience and known ability.

Lecturers in the Subordinate Educational Service are, generally speaking, men of somewhat lower qualifications ; for instance, 2nd class M.A.'s or M.Sc.'s with little or no teaching experience."

By the Hon'ble MAHARAJA RANAJIT SINHA OF NASHIPUR :—

X.—(*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state the number of—

(*i*) criminal and civil suits, regular and miscellaneous,
(*ii*) appeals,
(*iii*) miscellaneous, judicial and non-judicial cases, and
(*iv*) execution cases

disposed of by the District and Subordinate Judges of Rajshahi for the last five years, and

(*v*) the number of witnesses examined in these cases ?

(*b*) Will the Government be pleased to give the same information, in a separate statement, as to cases instituted and disposed of in the Courts of the District and Subordinate Judges of Rajshahi, so far as they relate to Malda ?

(*c*) Will the Government be pleased to state the number of—

(*i*) civil suits of the value of over Rs. 1,000, and
(*ii*) non-contested miscellaneous proceedings under the Probate and Letter of Administration and Succession Certificate Acts, instituted before and disposed of by the first munsif of Malda as such, and as District Delegate during the last five years ?

(*d*) Will the Government be pleased to state the number of original money suits of Small Cause Court nature valued above Rs. 100 and below Rs. 500 instituted before and disposed of by the two munsifs of Malda during the last five years ?

The following reply by the Hon'ble MR. CUMMING was laid on the table :—

"A statement is laid on the table.

The figures in the form desired by the Hon'ble Member are not available. Government have not lost sight of the question of posting a Subordinate Judge at Malda and a decision will be given as soon as possible."

Statement referred to in the answer by the Hon'ble Mr. Cumming to question No. XI (unstarred) asked by the Hon'ble Maharaja Ranajit Sinha of Nashipur at the Council Meeting of the 2nd July 1914.

District.	Year.	Civil.				Criminal.		
		Original suits.		Regular appeals.		Sessions cases	Appeals.	Revisions
		Instituted.	Pending.	Instituted.	Pending.	Brought to trial.	Preferred.	Preferred.
Rajshahi-Malda ...	1909	438	127	327	185	54	222	52
	1910	605	149	327	353	59	154	52
	1911	729	182	230	161	37	123	94
	1912	825	184	358	211	22	110	60
	1913	445	176	313	309	40	117	92
Total ...	.....	2,842	818	1,545	1,220	212	726	350

[*Nawab Saiyid H. H. Chaudhuri; Mr. Cumming; Maulvi M. A. Chaudhuri; Lt.-Col. Joly de Lotbinière.*]

DISTRICT.	Year.	Area	Population.	CIVIL WORK (SUPERIOR COURTS) INSTITUTED.	
				Original Suits.	Regular Appeals.
Rajshahi with Malda ...	Average of 5 years ending 1911	4,492	2,374,098	533	298
Malda	Ditto ditto ...	1,899	998,055	24	132

By the Hon'ble NAWAB SAYID HOSSAM HAIDER CHAUDHURI KHAN BAHADUR :—

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XI.—Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing—

(*i*) the total number of Presidents under the Chowkidari Circle system in the District of Tippera ;

(*ii*) the number of Hindus and Muhammadans in each subdivision of the said District at the present time ; and

(*iii*) the number of Hindus and Muhammadans in each subdivision at the time when the circle system was first introduced in the District of Tippera ?

The following reply by the Hon'ble MR. CUMMING was laid on the table :—

(*i*) "The total number of Presidents under the Chaukidari Circle System in the district of Tippera is 254.

(*ii*) The present number of Hindus and Muhammadans in each subdivision is as follows :—

	Hindus.	Muhammadans.	Total.
Sadar	69	57	126
Brahmanbaria ...	49	27	76
Chandpur	18	34	52
	136	118	254

(*iii*) The number of Hindus and Muhammadans in each subdivision at the time when the Circle System was first introduced in the district of Tippera was as follows :—

	Hindus.	Muhammadans	Total.
Sadar	61	71	132
Brahmanbaria ...	59	41	100
Chandpur	18	41	59
	138	153	291 + 1 vacant."

By the Hon'ble MAULVI MAZHARUL ANWAR CHAUDHURI :—

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XII.—Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table all papers relating to the scheme for the construction of a reservoir in the catchment area of the river Damodar, which was approved by Mr. Horn and the late Mr. Maconchy, and which was estimated to cost between 32 to 40 lakhs of Rupees as stated by the Hon'ble Mr. Lyon in his speech in Council on the 14th March, 1913, and published at page 3869, Part V of the *Calcutta Gazette* of the 26th March, 1913 ?

The following reply by the Hon'ble LT.-COL. JOLY DE LOTBINIÈRE was laid on the table :—

"The papers called for are laid on the table."

[*Lt.-Col. Joly de Lotbinière.*]

Papers referred to in the answer by the Hon'ble Lt.-Col. Joly de Lotbinière to Question No. XII (unstarred), asked by the Hon'ble Maulvi Mazharul Anwar Chaudhuri at the Council meeting of the 2nd July, 1914.

No. 3940, dated Calcutta, the 5th July, 1902.

From—O. C. LEES, Esq., Superintending Engineer South-Western Circle,
To—The Chief Engineer, Bengal.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 5471., dated the 26th March, 1902, forwarding copies of your report on the measures, which might be adopted to mitigate the extent of the damage caused by the Damodar floods, and asking for the opinions of the Executive Engineers of the Cossye and Northern Drainage and Embankment Divisions on some of the suggestions made in it. You request also that arrangements may be made for systematic observations of the effects of the inundations in future.

2. In reply, I have the honour to forward copies of letters from the Executive Engineers of the two Divisions mentioned above and of the correspondence noted in the margin. You will observe from the latter that arrangements have been made to carry out the suggestions contained in paragraphs 3 and 4 of your letter.

Copy of letter No. 1371, dated the 8th May, 1902, from the Executive Engineer, Northern Drainage and Embankment Division

Copy of letter No. 2817, dated the 3rd June, 1912, from the Executive Engineer, Cossye Division

3. The first point which Mr. White discusses is the probable effect upon the Cossye-Selye floods of any reduction in the volume of the Damodar spill. The conclusion at which he arrives is that no appreciable relief would be afforded. It is based upon the fact that the channel of the Roopnarain for 2½ miles below its junction with the Selye affords a very inadequate outlet for the flood waters of the Cossye and Selye. The left bank is said to be skirted by zamindari embankments "densely packed with bamboos"; the right by the Chetua embankment, a retirement of which at this place would be "almost impracticable." Mr. White argues from this that, though the retirement of the first 6 miles of the Chetua embankment, as suggested in your report, would unquestionably give a freer outlet for the Cossye-Selye floods into the Roopnarain, they could not get access to the Damodar spill basin without first running the gauntlet of these 2½ miles of confined Roopnarain channel, and that therefore the provision of a wider spill basin below this neck would be of no avail. He considers also that this conclusion is supported by the fact that in 1893 and in 1896 very high flood-levels were recorded at Ghatal, when there was no flood in the Damodar.

4. I do not share Mr. White's opinion. Even if it be granted that no improvement could be made in the channel of the Roopnarain for the 2½ miles below the Selye junction, it still appears to me that a reduction of the Damodar spill would have a direct and appreciable effect on the Cossye-Selye floods. It would provide a spill basin for the Darkessur floods above the Selye outfall, and would therefore lower the flood in that river, while, by permitting a freer escape from the Roopnarain below the "neck," the latter would be better able to carry the floods entering from the Selye. But I see no reason why it should be impossible to improve the carrying capacity of the Roopnarain for the two or three miles below its junction with the Selye. The removal of the zamindari embankments would doubtless be a troublesome task, but it is impossible to suppose that, if the Damodar reservoirs were made, those embankments and the fringe of bamboos would be allowed to interpose a permanent obstacle to the relief which would otherwise be afforded.

5. It is difficult to estimate the extent to which the flood-level at Ghatal would be reduced as a result of the construction of the reservoirs and of the subsidiary measures which, as Mr. White points out, would be required to give the Cossye-Selye floods a freer access to the Damodar basin. But it will not be unreasonable to assume that the high floods which occur on the average about once in every five years would never rise above 28·00 at Ghatal. In such case the value of the benefit, as shown in paragraph 10 of Mr. White's report, would be about Rs. 1,30,000 per annum.

6. As regards the remainder of his report, I agree generally with the

[*Lt.-Col. Joly de Lotbinière.*]

(sub-paragraph 7) that the construction of an escape channel from the 38th mile of the Chetua embankment to the Doorbachatty khal would be the best way of dealing with the Cossye-Selye floods. It would doubtless result in lowering the flood-level at Ghatal, but I do not think it would cost less than 20 lakhs, and such an outlay would, in my opinion, be prohibitive for the good that would be gained.

7. Mr. Maconchy's letter discusses the alternative measure, suggested in your report, of embanking the Begua with a view to expediting the process of raising the low-lying lands. I am disposed to agree with the remarks he makes upon this alternative. It would be too slow in its action. The zamindars would, I believe, never agree to finance a scheme, the benefits of which would accrue not to themselves, but to their children and grandchildren. Again, it is the fine silt carried in the upper layers of the stream that is so beneficial to the lands on which it is deposited. The embankments would shut this off from the lands that now benefit by it, and the owners would, I think, have a just grievance. For they would still be flooded by the back-water from below the embankments, but the water would be clean and would do them no good.

8. Mr. Maconchy adheres to his opinion that reservoirs would be the best solution of the problem, and he suggests that the scheme should be taken up under the Sanitary Drainage Act. The suggestion is, I think, a good one, which I propose to discuss in another letter.

9. Upon the question of the amount of the surplus flood water of the Cossye-Selye floods, Mr. Maconchy arrives at the conclusion that it is 150,000 cusecs. But these figures are arrived at by assuming the flow-off to be the mean between two values found in the Damodar basin. As a very small difference in the coefficient makes a considerable difference in the discharge in cusecs, I do not think much value can be placed upon the results of such a method of computing the discharge. Mr. White has gone into the question very thoroughly, and I think the result at which he arrives, viz., 200,000 cusecs, may be accepted as the best estimate that can be made of this surplus spill.

No. 6207, dated Calcutta, the 8th November, 1902.

From—O. C. Lees, Esq., Superintending Engineer, South-Western Circle.

To—The Chief Engineer, Bengal.

With reference to your letter No. 151T.—*I.*, dated the 3rd June, 1902, I have the honour to forward a copy of a letter No. 1724, dated the 23rd October, 1902, from the Honorary Assistant Engineer, Edilpur Subdivision, to the Executive Engineer, Northern Drainage and Embankment Division.

2. The Honorary Assistant Engineer first of all discusses the suggestion put forward in paragraph 13 of your letter under reply. He gives his reasons for believing that a scheme for expediting the formation of a channel to conduct the spill-water from the Begua breach to the Roopnarain would be impracticable. Mr. Maconchy shared this opinion. His remarks on the subject will be found in his letter No. 1371, dated the 8th May, 1902, forwarded with my letter No. 3940, dated the 5th July, 1902, in paragraph 7, of which I gave the reasons which induced me to agree with his views. Further consideration of the subject has only confirmed the opinion I then formed. The objections to the scheme put forward by the Honorary Assistant Engineer appear to me to be perfectly sound ones, and in reply to the questions asked in paragraph 14 of your letter, I can only say that—

(1) I know of no experiences which would justify a large expenditure upon works so uncertain in their action.

(2) If the Begua channel were cut, the river would probably not keep to it without training works which might be very costly.

(3) The cost of maintenance might be very high and the possible benefits most uncertain.

I am accordingly unable to recommend this alternative as one likely to be of any practicable benefit.

3. The Honorary Assistant Engineer next reverts to the reservoir scheme, and he gives his reasons for believing that the benefits likely to accrue from the control of the Damodar floods afforded by it would be about

14 lakhs of rupees. If this estimate is approximately correct, then, I think, a strong case exists for the reconsideration of that scheme. If the total benefit be put at only half this value, the scheme, if it costs 60 lakhs, would still pay a return of nearly 12 per cent. on the outlay. I would, therefore, venture to suggest that the project be reinvestigated with a view to its being undertaken under the provisions of the Sanitary Drainage Act.

NOTE BY D. B. HORN, ESQ., CHIEF ENGINEER, BENGAL, DATED 31ST DECEMBER, 1902.

As I anticipated, the scheme of attempting to assist the Begua to scour out its own channel is reported to be impracticable. I accept the opinion of the engineers consulted. I simply raised the possibility with the view of having it discussed. The Superintending Engineer reverts to the reservoir scheme and suggests that, if the Honorary Assistant Engineer's estimate of the benefits which are likely to accrue from the control of the floods is correct, it should be reinvestigated with a view to its being undertaken under the provisions of the Sanitary Drainage Act.

Only last week I discussed this question of benefit with the Executive Engineer and the Honorary Assistant Engineer, and I am convinced that the estimate of 7 lakhs, which is given in paragraph 10 of my letter, is much too hopeful.

In my original estimate of 32 lakhs for constructing the dam, I assumed that the crest of the dam might be utilized as an escape; but as this would entail a certain amount of risk in the high floods, escapes would be required, thereby raising the cost of the dam to about 40 lakhs. The capitalized value of the maintenance charges (Rs. 50,000 a year) would amount to 14 lakhs. Including interest charges during construction and the cost of the survey of the areas benefited, I am confident that the total sum to be apportioned would not be far short of sixty lakhs of rupees. The area to be reclaimed and benefited would not exceed 54,250 acres, so that the average rate of apportionment works out to Rs. 110 per acre (*see* paragraph 11 of letter). The rate for reclaimed land would of course be higher, whereas for benefited land the rate would be lower.

Even with this high rate, it might pay if the benefit could be guaranteed, but this is impossible. With the reservoir constructed, the land to be benefited would, even in ordinary high floods, be submerged under 7 feet of water for four or five days. In extraordinary floods, there would be no benefit. Where there is so much uncertainty as to the beneficial results of the scheme, I am decidedly of opinion that further investigation is unnecessary. It is very disappointing to me personally that the enquiry should have ended so fruitlessly, but it has shown that absolute protection to the flooded area is only possible with an expenditure ranging between the limits of 1¼ and 2 crores of rupees, that partial protection can only be obtained at a cost of 60 lakhs, and that the partial excavation of the Begua, at a cost of 20 lakhs, is also considered to be impracticable.

No. 1, dated Calcutta, the 21st February, 1902

From—D. B. HORN, ESQ., Superintending Engineer, on Special Duty,
To—The Chief Engineer, Bengal.

IN section 1, paragraph 1 of your letter No. 327T.—*I.*, dated the 16th October, 1901, I was directed to enquire and report whether any remedial measures, and if so, what measures, could be adopted to mitigate the extent of the damage which is frequently caused by the Damoodar floods.

2. This question of remedial measures is one of long standing, and before attempting to prescribe a remedy it is necessary first of all to have a clear understanding of the conditions which obtained more than fifty years ago.

[*Lt.-Col. Joly de Lotbinière.*]

3. The Damoodar embankments at that time were badly aligned and of insufficient section ; breaches in both banks were of very frequent occurrence, and thereby large tracts of country were subjected to disastrous floods. The following extract from a letter written by the Superintending Engineer of the Burdwan Circle will show how absolutely hopeless the maintenance of the embankments had become, and that it was useless to continue attempting to uphold a system of embankments which gave no protection to the country on either bank :—

"In 1848-49, when the annual destruction of the embankments made many officers think it would be best to remove them altogether, when the river Damoodar seemed determined in annexing the Banka river and forming a junction with it at Raghupore, when the time certainly had come for some change in the system of operations, a question was started as to whether it would not be advisable to secure the most valuable and most exposed side of the river, and to take advantage of the conformation of the other side, which seemed favourable for the rapid draining off of the floods, by opening it to the floods, removing the embankments, and limiting the range of the land inundation by a cross embankment stretching from the Damoodar to the Roopnarain."

4. In 1851, a survey was started with cross levels to cover the whole country on the right bank of the Damoodar up to the Darkessur river, with the view of ascertaining if it was feasible to abandon the embankments along a portion of the right bank of the river.

The remodelling of the left embankment was in progress in 1852-53, when Lieutenant-Colonel Goodwyn, Superintending Engineer, South-Eastern Provinces, wrote a long report on the Damoodar embankments, its bed, banks, drainage, inundations, etc., in which he strongly advocated the embanking of rivers.

The reasons advanced by him were that there was no cause to suppose that the river-bed would be raised thereby, but the reverse; that the embankments in process of being remodelled were sufficiently strong to resist any possible current ; and that the flood-level would not be raised by the permanent retention of the embankments on both banks.

5. Colonel Garstin, Chief Engineer, held precisely opposite views ; quoted instances of embanked rivers in Bengal where no damage was done by floods ; and gave it as his opinion that if both banks of the Damoodar were abandoned, the effects of the floods would not be disastrous, considering the immense area which they would have to spill over ; and that even when the flood waters did reach the Grand Trunk Road or the East Indian Railway, "they would be so shallow and have so little current that they would cause no damage to either."

6. For dealing with the Damoodar embankments three distinct proposals were put forward—

(1) To abolish the embankments on both sides as far as Ampta.

(2) To abolish a certain length of the right embankment, but to retain the left one for the protection of Burdwan, the Grand Trunk Road, the East Indian Railway, and any possible deterioration of the Port of Calcutta.

(3) To retain both embankments and to force the river to carry all its silt into the Hooghly at Falta.

The Government of Bengal eventually accepted the second proposal, and in 1855 orders were issued to the Superintendent of Embankments to remove the embankments from Sangat Gollah downwards for a distance of 20 miles. Before the flood season of 1856 a length of 15½ miles was removed ; but, owing to the absence in Europe of the Superintendent, it was not until the cold weather of 1858 that the orders of Government were fully complied with.

7. Prior to the removal of the embankments, a Deputy Collector was specially deputed in 1854 to make a detailed enquiry as to the state of cultivation in the villages which were likely to be submerged, and to assist him in this investigation he was provided with a map on which was marked the possible limits of inundation.

NOTE.—For the early history of the embankments consult Selections from the Bengal Records, volumes XV, XL and I.

[*Lt.-Col. Joly de Lotbinière.*]

The Deputy Collector estimated that 762 villages were likely to be affected, with an area of 458,956 bighas. Of this area, 46,105 bighas were waste, and 2,044 bighas jungle land—in all 48,149 bighas were not under cultivation in 1854. Of this area, the Deputy Collector estimated that 26,168 bighas would be improved by silt brought in by floods, but of the land under cultivation, he considered that 165,089 bighas would be injured; so that of the whole inundated area, 40 per cent. would be rendered more or less unfit for cultivation.

8. It is to be regretted that a similar enquiry was not made a few years after the embankments had been removed, as after this lapse of time it would have been a useful guide in this enquiry by enabling me to judge if there has been any improvement in the cultivation of the flooded area.

Mr. Hobhouse, Collector of Burdwan, made an inspection of the inundated area in the cold weather of 1858, but he was evidently unaware of the Deputy Collector's report, as he stated that his only means of comparing the past and present condition of the country were the result of his own observations. In his report is given a list of villages visited, with the area found waste in each, and the following is a brief summary of the result of his inspection :—

"That from Sangat Gollah to Bamunia a little but not much injury has been done by the removal of the embankments; that from Bamunia to Hybutpore a very great deal of injury has been done by the same cause; that from Kistopore to Kotsimool an immense deal of injury has been done by the flood waters let in through the Kistopore vent-channel as a chief cause, and that this injury has been added to by the removal of the embankments, floods being thus let in, which have added force and volume to those before prevailing; that the injuries done are not, except perhaps in places like the semi-circle of waste land, generally of a permanent nature, the condition of the land showing, and the villagers usually admitting, that cultivation could easily be resumed, and would shortly be restored to its former prosperous state, were the different breaches and vent-channel named once closed."

9. A similar enquiry was made by Mr. Hobhouse in 1859 after the whole length of 20 miles of the right embankment had been removed. I will here quote *verbatim* the summary of his investigations, as I shall have to refer to them later when considering the question of a remedy for the conditions as they exist to-day :—

"On the subject of the Damoodar inundation on the right bank, I suppose I shall be expected to give some sort of summary of my investigations. I think, then, that commencing from below Sangat Gollah, the floods must have entered the breaches—*first*, at Roopshah; *second*, just below Goitumpore; *third*, between Jamna and Bangatchia; *fourth*, between Bamunia and Hijulna; *fifth*, between Hijulna and Hurripore; *sixth*, between Jamdoho and Hybutpore; *seventh* below Nusheepore, and *eighth* between Jote Dukhin and Jote Sreeram. Wherever the main body of the floods passed through all those breaches, there more or less injury has been done on the bank and inland by the sweeping away and rotting of crops and the deposit of sand to a greater or less depth. In places where the floods have simply washed lands without any violent rush of water, and have thence gently and naturally receded after resting some two or three days there, to judge by the crops, the floods have been beneficial to the country. Of breach No. 7 there is no necessity to speak, as an embankment is being run across it. At breaches 1, 2, 3, 5 and 8, much sand has been deposited near the river banks, and some crops were probably swept away or rotted inland, but no villages seem to have been materially injured in the line which the floods *take* through these breaches. At breaches 4 and 6 the greatest injuries have been done. Here from one to two miles of length and quarter of a mile in breadth on the river banks and inland scarcely any crops are to be seen, and sand deposits studded now and then with clumps of coarse grass everywhere meet the eye, and the villages of Hijulna, Bougram, Raipore and Teandoll, and their cultivation seem to have suffered very much destruction of houses, property, and crops through breach No. 4, and the villages of Hybutpore, Sadeepore, Denapore and Balagor, and their crops through breach No. 6.

"If I might suggest, I should say that a measure of equity to the raiyats and landholders on the right bank would be to fill up all the breaches mentioned, so as to bring them to the levels of the river banks on either side of them; and thus perhaps when all the right bank is overtopped by the flood, there might be a general and equal spill over the whole country instead of those partial rushes of flood water at eight breaches over some thirty-six miles of river banks; but even if this result could not thus be obtained, at least the filling up of the breaches would satisfy the minds of people, who now remark that whilst cesses to maintain their embankments are included in their jummas, and the Government receives a yearly sum of Rs. 55,000 to maintain them,[c] they are not only not maintained, but are removed, and even the breaches in the natural banks are now never repaired."

10. In the cold weather of 1861, an uncovenanted Deputy Collector, Mr. Jones, made an inspection of the Burdwan district, particularly from Kotsimool to Tundool, and reported that the prevailing feature testifying to the damage done by the removal of the embankment was the immense quantity of waste land to be met with; and although these lands are too far from the river to be covered with sand, yet the good soil appears to have

[c] NOTE.—Government does not receive a yearly sum of Rs. 55,000 to maintain the embankments.

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been washed away by the force of the current. He also instances two facts to show the damage which must be done to lands subjected to floods such as last year—

(*i*) At Suboldoho and Boro there were 10 to 12 feet of water over the lands, as corroborated by the marks on trees.

(*ii*) At Kamalghurree and two or three other places, the people are migrating.

The Collector of Burdwan (not Mr. Hobhouse, I understand) from a perusal of this report observed that whatever indirect advantages may have been derived from abandoning the embankments, the direct results have been almost complete ruin to the cultivators, whose lands are situated along the banks of the Damoodar.

11. In the Hooghly district a personal inspection was made by the Collector from Shahpore to Dihi Borsoot. It was noted that for a mile or two on the right bank the crops were good ; that the land had been enriched by silt deposit. Beyond this a tract from 2 to 2½ miles in width had been much injured. In this tract, the Collector gathered, there was 12 feet of water, and notwithstanding its wide expanse, the current was strong, "uprooting trees, destroying houses, leaving in places a considerable body of sand, and otherwise devastating a large tract of country, which was covered with coarse grass over the greater portion and used as grazing-ground for the public."

12. The Bengal Government was evidently not satisfied with the reports above referred to regarding the state of the country after the floods, as Lieutenant Garnault, R.E., was deputed to make an enquiry during the cold-weather season of 1862. That officer made a rough survey of the waste lands in the Burdwan district ; but, unfortunately, I have not been able to obtain a copy of it. The general result of the enquiry was that there were 21,271 bighas lying waste in 1862-63, against 18,820 bighas in 1858-59 and 16,668 bighas as estimated in 1854.

The increase of 2,451 bighas since 1858-59 Lieutenant Garnault attributed to two causes :—

1st—There was much more waste at Srikistopore, and

2ndly—that there was a quantity of land lying waste at the time of the enquiry, which in ordinary years would be cultivated.

Mr. Jones's estimate of the waste land from Sangat Gollah to Kotsimool, which at the time was evidently considered excessive, was only about 4 per cent. in excess of Lieutenant Garnault's.

Lieutenant Garnault sums up the whole of his enquiry in the Burdwan district (he did not inspect the Hooghly district) in the following words :—

"That a great quantity of land has been put out of cultivation there is no doubt ; that a great quantity more has been unfitted for rice cultivation, but still able to produce equally lucrative crops of *rabi* there is also no doubt ; but it has yet to be proved that the greater produce on some lands on account of the alluvial deposit from the spill waters of the Damoodar does not compensate for the loss which has been sustained by portions which have been laid entirely waste. For my own part I am inclined to think that if the whole of the lands subject to the floods belonged to one individual, he would find no decrease in the income derived from the produce of the land."

13. The final orders* of the Bengal Government on this very important question were as follows :—

"On a careful consideration of the subject, the Lieutenant-Governor is of opinion that the removal of the embankments on the right bank of the Damoodar has been a judicious measure, the work has been carried out with skill and judgment, and the results accord closely with the expectations formed when it was first authorized in 1856. Whatever partial damage may have been sustained by the natural action of the river, now that it is no longer attempted to confine the flood waters within artificial limits, it is not to be compared with the injury and devastation formerly produced by the sudden and violent irruption of the river bursting its embankments, while the general fertility of the area subject to inundation has been greatly increased. But while arriving at this conclusion, the Lieutenant-Governor is not unmindful of the fact that a certain extent of country in the immediate vicinity of the breaches that have occurred has been injured, and that a sense of insecurity still prevails among the raiyats from the uncertainty of the action of the river on its bank. His Honour is, therefore, of opinion that some practical measure should be devised to utilize the flood waters of the Damoodar, to give confidence to the raiyats, and, if possible, to reclaim the land which is now uncultivated."

* No. 3905, dated the 18th May, 1863.

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14. These final orders may be considered to conclude what may be termed the first stage of the proceedings connected with the regulation of the floods in the Damoodar river. I will now proceed to state briefly the result of the investigations which were made with the view of establishing reservoirs in the upper sections of the Damoodar and Barakur rivers.

15. In one of the appendices to this report will be found extracts from the notes of my inspection of the inundated country. They may be considered somewhat lengthy ; but I venture to think they will be found useful should further enquiry be considered necessary. I was unable to obtain any information as to the present state of cultivation, so I decided to see with my own eyes as large an area of the flooded country as possible, before attempting to suggest any remedy for its improvement. In a subsequent paragraph of this report I will attempt to contrast the state of cultivation, as it is to-day, with what it was in the cold season of 1859.

16. In the cold weather of 1863, Lieutenant Garnault explored the upper portion of the Damoodar river, and selected four sites for reservoirs, one in each of the following rivers, viz., the Gurhee, Haharoo, Bakaroo, and Konaree. He estimated that these four reservoirs would lower the flood-level of the Edilpur gauge by one foot ; and although they would not be sufficient to save entirely the country on the west of the Damoodar from inundation, still with this reduction of level half of the floods between 1859 and 1863 would have passed to the sea without doing any damage, and the danger caused by the remainder would have been greatly alleviated.

17. The following were the Lieutenant-Governor's orders on the report :—

"The four reservoirs recommended by Lieutenant Garnault in Gurhee, Haharoo, Bakaroo, and Konaree *nadis* would only have the effect, according to his calculation, of lowering the flood-level one foot at Edilpur, and thereby diminishing by about one half the damage heretofore done by inundating floods. To attempt this would be trifling with an object of great importance, and it is certainly desirable that a much greater measure of protection should, if practicable, be attained."

18. In the cold weather of 1866, Lieutenant Heywood continued the examination of the upper reaches of the Damoodar and its tributaries with the view of discussing sites suitable for "reservoirs to keep back the inundating floods and store the excess water for future use either to irrigate neighbouring land or increase the available flood of the lower Damoodar during the dry season, and thus form a source of supply for canals."

The result of this enquiry was that fourteen additional sites were discovered more or less suitable for reservoirs.

19. About this time Messrs. Schiller, Peterson, and Goodenough applied for a concession for constructing a navigable canal, between the Raniganj coalfields and the Hooghly, as an alternative route to the East Indian Railway, which was reported to be unable to deal with the rapidly-increasing coal trade. The Orissa famine was also in progress, and it was no doubt these two new factors which prompted the Government of Bengal, in reporting the result of Lieutenant Heywood's enquiry to the Government of India, to recommend that a commencement be made with such of the reservoirs as present the greatest facilities, and can be executed at a moderate cost, more especially as the Chief Engineer has pointed out the absolute necessity for some water being stored in connection with the proposed canals from the Damoodar now under consideration.

For this purpose three sites in the Damoodar and two in the Barakar river were recommended for selection, especially as the water stored therein, calculated at 17,500 million cubic feet, would, when held back, not only exercise a most perceptible effect on the floods, but also be immediately reproductive in supplying the canal from Raniganj to Calcutta at a time when there would be little or none available in the river. The Lieutenant-Governor also stated that he was all the more anxious to see this experiment tried, as the floods of the Damoodar are still a subject of great difficulty, which the measures hitherto adopted cannot be said to have practically solved.

* * * * * *

In the same letter the Lieutenant-Governor, therefore, proposed to have the survey and estimates made for the reservoirs as forming a necessary adjunct to the canal project, and at the same time offering an opportunity of

testing to a not unimportant extent, and without additional expense, the principle of restraining the floods.

20. In April 1870, plans and estimates for the Damoodar Canal, revised agreeably to the instructions conveyed by the Governor General in Council, were resubmitted to the Government of India, and the Lieutenant-Governor expressed a hope that the estimates would now be deemed sufficiently complete to admit of their being forwarded to the Secretary of State for sanction.

21. The Government of India forwarded the plans and estimates to the Secretary of State in June, and informed the Bengal Government of the fact. They also requested that expenditure on preliminary operations at the head works might be suspended, as His Excellency the Governor General, notwithstanding the strong recommendation in favour of the scheme of His Honour, and of various officers consulted, was not satisfied that the Government in carrying it out would be secured from financial loss, owing to there being no certainty that the people would take the water regularly.

The Secretary of State, in his Despatch of November 1870, wrote as follows :—

> I cannot think, therefore, that the scheme under consideration could be proceeded with immediately without risk of serious financial loss. I join in opinion with your Excellency that it will be wiser to wait until observation of the irrigation and navigation works in operation in the Midnapore and Cuttack districts shall have afforded better means of judging what will be the probable effects of similar works in the country between Raniganj and Calcutta.

This completes the early history of the question of dealing with the Damoodar floods—a question which has remained in abeyance for over thirty years, with the exception of the detailed survey which was made by Mr. Lees in 1888-89, and which led to the abandonment of a further length of ten miles of the right embankment.

22. I will now consider what the effect of the floods has been on the country during the last fifty years, and if it is possible by any means, and at a moderate cost, to mitigate the frequency and severity of the floods, so that the waste land may be again brought under cultivation, and at the same time lessen the annual misery caused to the poor villagers, who, seemingly, from force of circumstances are compelled to live under conditions which, during periods of flood, must be, to say the least, alarming. In the *bhils* of Eastern Bengal the villagers provide themselves with boats for getting about, but on the Damoodar right bank this is not possible, as the floods seldom last more than a week, and during that time the villagers are kept prisoners on the village mounds. In every village I heard the same story, viz., that the floods were higher in recent years, and apart from the evidence of gauge-readings, their story was confirmed by the number of houses which had fallen *during the flood of September last.* It is, of course, no new experience for the inhabitants of this unfortunate tract to wake up in the morning and find the whole country one vast sea of water. Captain Finnis, in his report of the flood of 1840, speaks of the country being under water "as far as the eye can reach," and Mr. Denton, speaking of the country farther south, says that it was one sheet of water, and that the water from the Damoodar passed over the bunds of the Darkessur into the latter river.

23. At that time even, I understand, the villages were for the most part on mounds 8 to 14 feet high. At the present day the villages are still on mounds, but I believe it is not uncommon for the poorer people to have to take refuge in trees during exceptionally high floods. It was no doubt this liability to floods, caused by imperfect embankments, which led Government in 1854 to abandon the right embankment in preference to abandoning the embankments on both sides of the river. It is not generally known how imperfect the drainage of the country is between the Hooghly and Damoodar rivers as high up as Burdwan. In years of ordinary rainfall no drainage is required, as the whole of the rainfall is necessary for maturing the rice crop; but whenever there is an abnormal fall of rain, the country becomes water-logged, as the only outlets for the drainage are a few small openings in the right bank of the Hooghly in the upper portion, and in the lower portion the drainage sluices at Dancuni, Howrah, Burra Jallah, and Sijberriah. This was particularly noticeable during the last two years when the rainfall in

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September was exceptionally heavy. If, therefore, in addition to the ordinary rainfall, the country were also subjected to annual inundations from the Damoodar, many villages on the left of the Damoodar would, at the present time, be as badly off as those on the right, to say nothing of the frequent interruptions to traffic which would be caused by breaches in the East Indian Railway.

24. The self-acting tide-gauge at Noaserai on the Hooghly shows that, during the whole of August and September, the river level never falls below 19 above mean sea-level; whereas, at Gopeegunge on the Roopnarain the gauge only registered 23·5 for twenty-four hours during September last, and six days afterwards the mean level was only 10·50, notwithstanding the heavy floods in the Cossye and Selye rivers as well. It will be seen, therefore, that the Roopnarain river is the natural outfall for the Damoodar flood water, and there can now be no doubt that the action of Government in abandoning the right embankment was judicious. Great misery has doubtless been caused thereby to the inhabitants of the inundated tract, but history shows that they were not unused to it, although it is possible, since the abandonment of the embankment, that their sufferings are more frequent and of longer duration.

25. From what I have written in previous paragraphs, it must be evident that there is only one possible way of mitigating the extent of the damage caused by the Damoodar floods, and that is by the construction of controlling reservoirs as near as possible to the confluence of the Damoodar and Barakur rivers. In order to calculate what the approximate size of the reservoirs should be, it is first of all necessary to ascertain the maximum flood discharge of the Damoodar, and also the duration of a high flood. So far as I have been able to gather from old papers, the most reliable observations seem to have been made by Lieutenant Garnault in 1864 and Lieutenant Heywood in 1866. Lieutenant Garnault found the discharge of the Damoodar above its confluence with the Barakur to be 284,388 cubic feet per second. Lieutenant Heywood, from observations, estimated the discharge of the Barakur at 147,577 cubic feet; so that, assuming the two floods to be simultaneous, the joint discharge of the rivers may be taken at 430,965 cubic feet per second. From later observations, Lieutenant Heywood estimated the discharge of the Damoodar at Raniganj at 343,657 cubic feet. The discharge of the river at Sangat Gollah, about 60 miles below Burdwan, would therefore probably be not less than 380,000 cubic feet. The gauge-reading at Edilpur during this flood was 15. From cross-sections of the river taken in 1851, Colonel Goodwyn calculated the discharge by Eytelwein's formula, which gave approximately 600,000 cubic feet per second as the result.

26. Hitherto I have considered this discharge to be manifestly much too high, but taking the following facts into consideration I question if the discharge is so very much exaggerated as I had previously supposed. From recent cross-sections of the river, I have attempted to calculate the maximum discharge of the river by the Mississippi formula, but the results have been disappointing.

The drainage area of the Damoodar is 7,000 square miles,* and to carry off a rainfall of 3 inches over this area in 24 hours requires a discharge of 567,000 cubic feet per second; but as it is generally assumed that only 70 per cent. of the rainfall does flow off, the revised discharge becomes 396,900 cubic feet. The highest recorded flood in the Damoodar occurred in July 1897, when there was an average rainfall of 8·90 inches over the whole catchment area in four days (Mr. Maconchy's note on the Damoodar Canal); but the period of highest flood only lasted 48 hours, which is equal to a net flow-off of 3·13 inches in the 24 hours, or a discharge of 591,500 cubic feet per second. The maximum discharge must, therefore, have been less than this amount, as it must have taken some time to fill up the river channels and also to empty them. It is probable, therefore, that when the flood was at its highest, the discharge was not less than 500,000 cubic feet a second. This flood, which registered 16 feet 2 inches on Edilpur gauge, was an extraordinary high one, whereas during an ordinary high flood (15 feet on the

* Drainage area of Barakur river 2,700 square miles.

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gauge), it is probable that the discharge does not exceed 400,000 cubic feet a second.

27. The flood of September 1900 was 1 foot 4 inches lower than that of 1897, but its period of duration was nearly 60 hours, whereas the flood of July 1897 lasted less than 48 hours. In 1859, on the 28th July, a most destructive flood is said to have occurred, the gauge-reading at Edilpur being 14 feet 6 inches. It is described as follows by Mr. Smith, the Executive Engineer of Burdwan :—

At Edilpur the river commenced rising from a level of 5 feet very early in the morning of the 28th July, and at noon reached its greatest height level of 14 feet 6 inches which it maintained for three hours. At 3 o'clock P.M it began to subside, and fell a foot by 6 o'clock the same evening, and the following day at noon it was down to 10 feet 6 inches on gauge.

In 1866, there was a high flood which commenced on the morning of the 1st July at 10 A.M.

At 10 A.M. gauge read	...	11′ 6″
Evening ...	...	14′ 0″
Morning of 2nd July	...	14′ 0″
Afternoon ...	...	13′ 6″
At 1 A.M. on 3rd ...	...	15′ 0″
At 10 „ on 3rd ...	...	11′ 0″

The first flood was only at its highest for 12 hours. That of 1866 was at its highest for a few hours only, but the Edilpur gauge probably averaged 14 feet for 30 hours.

In 1877, the flood was at its highest for 12 hours, but the flood lasted 42 hours.

In 1898, the Edilpur gauge averaged fully 15 feet for 30 hours.

In 1899, the flood was only 14 feet 6 inches for a few hours.

In 1900, the flood in June did not reach 15 feet on the Edilpur gauge for more than 12 hours.

In 1901, the flood in September probably averaged 15 feet for 36 hours.

I have compared the duration of all the floods from 1857, and with the exception of the unusual floods in July 1897 and September 1900, the duration of an ordinary high flood is about 24 hours.

28. Before proceeding further with the question of size of reservoirs, it is necessary for me to compare the gauge-readings at Edilpur for as many years as reliable readings can be found. The zero of the gauge prior to 1859 was 92·58, when for some reason or other it was lowered about 3½ feet. In the following year the gauge was put back to its old zero, where it remained until it was washed away in 1880. I ordered that the zero of the gauge to be checked last month, and found it to be 8 inches too high.

The following is the list of gauge-readings at Edilpur which are all referred to the same zero, viz., 92·58 above mean sea-level :—

Year.		Date.			Reading.
1857	...	24th August	...	...	13′ 0″
1858	...	River did not rise above its bank.			
1859	...	28th July	...	...	14′ 6″
1860	...	27th „	...	...	12′ 3″
1861	...	5th „	...	...	14′ 0″
1862	...	20th June	...	...	13′ 6″
1863	...	26th September		...	14′ 9″
1864	...	12th „	...	...	13′ 11″
1865	...	15th „	...	...	14′ 6″
1866	...	2nd July	...	...	15′ 0″
1867	...	30th „	...	...	11′ 6″
1868	...	17th June	...	...	14′ 9″
1869	...	15th July	...	...	13′ 10″
1870	...	2nd August	...	...	13′ 0″
1871	...	11th „	...	...	13′ 9″
1872	...	No flood.			
1873	...	29th July	...	...	15′ 2″
1874	...	24th August	...	...	13′ 3″
1875	...	20th July	...	...	12′ 9″

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Year.	Date.	Reading.
1876	... 8th August	14′ 0″
1877	... 12th September ...	15′ 11″
1878	... 18th August	13′ 9″
1879	... 11th September ...	13′ 9″
1880	... 7th August	13′ 6″
	(Gauge carried away.)	
1881	... 23rd August	13′ 4″
1882	... 13th July	11′ 8″
1883	... 2nd August	12′ 10″
1884	... 16th ,, ...	11′ 1″
1885	... 24th ,, ...	14′ 10″
1886	... 26th July	14′ 9″
1887	... 2nd August	15′ 2″
1888	... 27th ,, ...	15′ 10″
1889	... 23rd ,, ...	11′ 5″
1890	... 13th ,, ...	13′ 7″
1891	... 5th September ...	13′ 11″
1892	... 5th August	14′ 4″
1893	... 21st July	14′ 8″
1894	... 8th ,, ...	14′ 11″
1895	... 20th September ...	12′ 4″
1896	... 22nd July	15′ 5″
1897	... 14th ,, ...	16′ 2″
1898	... 19th June	15′ 10″
1899	... 15th July	13′ 10″
1900	... 22nd September ...	14′ 10″
1901	... 5th ,, ...	15′ 8″

In 1853, Captain Dickens, who was then Assistant Secretary to the Military Board, attempted to prove that the bed of the river was being raised, and on this same subject Lieutenant Garnault wrote as follows in 1864 :—

"It has been stated that the battle of the Damodar has been fought and won; but I think that the measure of the removal of the embankment is only one of temporary success, and that in a few years we shall find ourselves in just as great difficulties as ever with the Damodar floods, and with one of our chances of relief exhausted. There is no doubt, I think, that the bed of the Damodar from Raniganj to Moishrakha has risen, and is steadily rising; coal boats, which could navigate the river from June till November, can now only ply in the highest freshets; there is also no doubt that the country on the right is rising. At Sadepore the country has risen a foot since the guage was put up in 1859: and the villagers informed me that since the removal of the embankment the land has risen 3 or 4 feet."

As regards the high floods in recent years, it should be remembered that the spill over the left bank above Edilpur must be less now than it was in 1866, so that for similar floods the gauge-readings at Edilpur must necessarily be higher. It is also a fact that, during the last three years, the floods in all the rivers, from the Damodar to the Mutai, have been higher than any recorded during the previous thirty years.

To my mind, therefore, the evidence of the gauge-readings is conclusive that there has been little, if any, change in the height of river-bed during the last fifty years.

29. During the very high flood of 1840, Captain Dickens calculated that, notwithstanding the breaches on the Burdwan side of the river, at least 300,000 cubic feet a second must have passed over the land on the right of the Damodar and he further estimated that, if the whole discharge of the river, viz., 600,000 cubic feet a second had passed, the depth of flood over this land would only have been increased two feet thereby. I am unable to understand how Captain Dickens arrived at the above conclusion, as I have attempted to calculate the discharge in the flooded area, but I am sorry to say the results have been most disappointing.

One thing, however, is certain, and that is, in order to give adequate protection to the inundated area, it will be necessary to hold back a considerable portion of the flood discharge of the river, and also for a not inconsiderable length of time.

30. In a previous paragraph of this report, I referred to two exceptional floods of recent years, viz., that of July 1897 and September 1900.

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The former flood was at its height for nearly two whole days, and certainly for three days, the average discharge could not have been less than 400,000 cubic feet per second. The flood during September 1900 lasted for 60 hours; and although it was not such a high flood, its discharge, while it lasted, was probably about 400,000 cubic feet per second.

The flood of September 1900 was unusually prolonged in all the rivers in the Midnapore and Balasore Divisions, and may, therefore, be considered exceptional; the flood of July 1897 was also, as regards duration, exceptional, although the floods of 1877, 1888, 1898 and 1901 were almost equally high.

The following is the mean height of floods for the following periods :—

Year.				
1857—1866	...	...	...	13′ 6″
1867—1876	...	...	...	13′ 7″
1877—1886	...	...	...	13′ 6″
1887—1896	...	...	...	14′ 2″
1897—1901	...	...	...	15′ 3″

It will be seen, therefore, that the average flood of the last five years was 13 inches higher than that of the ten years previous. The comparison, however, is scarcely a fair one, as it is possible that the floods during the next five years may be low ones, in which case the mean height of flood from 1897 to 1906 will probably vary little from the mean of the period from 1887 to 1896.

31. In order, therefore, to give any tangible protection to the inundated area, and from what has been said in the previous paragraphs, it is evident that a very large portion of the flood must be held back, and, in my opinion, it will be necessary to retain 200,000 cubic feet per second for three days, which corresponds to a storage capacity of 51.940 millions of cubic feet.

The probable effect of this would be to lower the gauge at Edilpur to 12 feet, so that there would be little or no spill across the right bank from Sangatgollah to opposite Gopalpur bungalow. Between that and Jamalpur the spill would probably be 50,000 cubic feet, and the balance would find its way through the Begua breach and the main Damoodar towards Ampta. The effect of this would be that the whole of the country as far as Begua would be free from floods, and any flood-water there might be would be beneficial than otherwise; whereas the country below Begua, instead of having to impound 350,000 cubic feet a second for some days, would have only half that amount to impound, so that the flooded area would be much smaller, and the depth of water over the lowest land would probably be reduced by one-half. This great reduction in the height of flood in the neighbourhood of the Darkessur river would at once give relief to the flood-water from the Cossye and Selye rivers, which does such frequent damage to the Ghatal and Chetooa circuits.

32. During my recent inspection I was able to realize what the full force of the Damoodar flood-water must be when it first approached the left bank of the Roopnarain. During the flood of September 1900, the flood-water poured over the left bank of the Roopnarain as far up as Joteekanaram inspection bungalow, so that it was impossible for either the Darkessur, the Cossye, or the Selye rivers to get rid of any portion of their flood-water through this portion of the Roopnarain. For two days there was no difference of level between the gauge readings at Ranichuck and Gopeegunge. The consequence was that the Ghatal circuit embankment was swept away, the Darkessur zamindari embankments are rapidly disappearing (I understand the zamindars have given up trying to maintain them), the Chetooa

and neighbouring circuit embankments were breached, with the result that the whole country was inundated.

During the last three years the results have been disastrous, and I have reluctantly come to the conclusion that it is almost hopeless to attempt to continue maintaining the Schedule D embankments, if something is not done to control the Damoodar floods.

33. The surplus water of the Cossye and Selye floods is about 300,000 cubic feet per second, and if one-third of this quantity could readily find a means of escape into the lowland above the Bakshi khal, there would be no difficulty in this quantity, combined with the reduced discharge of the Damoodar, finding a speedy passage through the railway bridge at Kolaghat.* It is true that this surplus water from the Cossye and Selye rivers would probably slightly increase the depth of water in the inundated area to the north of the Bakshi khal ; but it is impossible to avoid this, as in any circumstances a certain area of this land must remain waste.

All the flood-water of the Damoodar must pass over this land, and if a portion of the flood is kept back for a time, it simply means that this land will no longer be subject to a high flood, as is the case at present, but it will probably be flooded for a longer time with less depth of water. In these circumstances it seems to me impossible that this land can ever be brought under rice cultivation, but in time it might be possible to make the land suitable for *rabi* crops.

34. By controlling the Damoodar floods as proposed, I am of opinion it would then be possible to give absolute protection to the whole of Ghatal, Chetooa, and other circuits below, while the country from Sangatgolah to Begua would be free from floods, and breaches in the right bank of the river would be no longer possible. The country to the south of the Begua would, no doubt, be improved, but it is impossible to say to what extent, and, as I have already remarked, there would always be a certain area to the north of the Bakshi khal which would derive no benefit.

There are other advantages to be derived from the construction of the proposed reservoirs, which may be briefly summarised as follows. The proposed new railway from Bankura to Howrah would be more cheaply constructed :—

(*a*) If the crossing is fixed above Begua, very few openings would be required to pass the spill-water, and at the main river crossing a bridge sufficient to pass 200,000 cubic feet a second would be all that was necessary.

(*b*) At present an average annual expenditure of Rs. 20,000 is incurred in repairing breaches in the right bank of the Damoodar. I estimate that, if the flood level were reduced by three feet at Edilpur, no part of this expenditure would be necessary in future.

(*c*) During the last three years the excess cost of repairing breaches in the Ghatal, Panna, and Chetooa circuits has averaged not less than Rs. 50,000. I consider that, if the flood-water at Ghatal is prevented in future from rising above 28 on the gauge, almost the whole of this expenditure would be saved.

35. Before attempting to estimate the annual saving of crops which would be effected by the construction of reservoirs, I will first of all consider if suitable sites for reservoirs are available.

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* From the old records I have ascertained that the section of the river at Kolaghat is much the same to-day as it was in 1850.

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The following reservoir sites were selected by Lieutenant Heywood during his investigation in 1866 :—

UPPER DAMOODAR.

NAME OF BASIN.	Maximum height of dam.	Cubic feet of water to be retained.	Area drained above site of dam in square miles.	Mean height of dam in feet.	Total length of dam in feet.	Miles the river will be pounded up.	Slope of bed of river per mile.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1. Mahcam ...	45	530,000,000	32·30	19·74	2,244	2½	17·98	
2. Damoodar	100	8,000,000,000	192·42	46·11	3,952	10 7/10	9·30	
3. Gurhee ...	80	7,000,000,000	185·00	24·47	10,952	9	8·64	
4. Suphee ...	100	1,562,119,680	40·00	...	...	8	7·124	
5. Haharoo ...	110	8,000,000,000	250·00	68·19	1,856	11	9·54	A good site.
6. Bakaroo ...	130	7,500,000,000	225·00	60·04	1,725	12	10·73	
7. Konaree ...	105	4,500,000,000	496·55	49·86	3,041	4 7/10	22·14	
8 Do. ...	79	4,000,000,000	398·95	30·37	2,231	5½	14·13	
9.	100	3,000,000,000	309·66	45·60	1,089	4¼	13·75	Do.
10. Jumoonea	100	5,000,000,000	349·64	33·33	7,132	8	12·56	
11. Do. ...	100	6,000,000,000	197·95	54·42	7,553	10	10·107	
12. Gowaie ...	48	500,000,000	Unknown		4,600	2¾	16·18	

BARAKUR.

1. Barakur ...	54	3,500,000,000	270·16	37·99	700	13	4·17
2. Tando ...	50	1,027,760,448	23·75	23·98	2,456	2¾	18·70
3. Churkee ...	70	2,000,000,000	87·40	25·82	4,514½	4	17·55
4. Gondengo ...	75	788,006,208	18·27	35·94	2,221½	3¼	23·26
5. Ragheea ...	50	1,000,000,000	30·00	...	...	3	16·09
6. Khoodiya ...	54½	1,000,000,000	61·34	27·30	1,077	5½	9·81

36. Regarding the suitability of these sites Colonel Rundall, Chief Engineer, wrote as follows :—

"The result of Lieutenant Heywood's investigation was the discovery of twelve sites for reservoirs in the Damoodar, more or less favourable, the aggregate capacity of which is estimated at 55,000 millions of cubic feet and of six sites in the affluents of the Barakur aggregating 9,300 millions of cubic feet. Of the former, however, only eight are favourable as far as the slope of river is concerned, and in all of them the length of dam is greater than desirable. Of the six sites in the Barakur, only the first and sixth are favourable. The former particularly so, owing to the dam being so short."

Colonel Rundall then went on to say that although the sites were isolated, he anticipated no difficulty in the construction of the reservoirs if proper arrangements were made beforehand. He, therefore, recommended sites Nos. 1, 3 and 8 in the Mahcam, Gurhee and Konaree affluents of the Damoodar and Nos. 1 and 6 in the Barakur being regularly surveyed and estimated for. He estimates the storage capacity at these sites to be 17,500 millions of cubic feet, "or rather more than a quarter of the whole quantity of water shed off in a great flood like that of 1866, sufficient to have lowered the levels of the river to within its natural banks at Edilpur and so prevented any destructive effects."

37. I am unable to follow the reasoning of the note, as the area of the catchment basins above the reservoir sites is under 1,000 square miles, or ¼th of the total drainage area of the two rivers. Dickens' empirical formula for calculating the discharge of a river is $Q=CM^{\frac{3}{4}}$, where C is a constant, and M the drainage area, so that the discharge is nearly proportional to the catchment area. Under the most favourable conditions, the reservoirs could not have reduced the discharge by a lakh of cubic feet, or, to put it in other words, they would simply have sufficed to convert an extraordinary high flood into an ordinary high flood, which corresponds to a reading of 15 feet

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on the Edilpur gauge. Lieutenant Heywood must have written the following paragraph of his report under a misapprehension :—

"At Edilpur the quantity of water passing down the channel below the banks where the gauge shows 10 feet is stated by Lieutenant Dundas to be 237,660 cubic feet per second."

At that time it was always assumed that with a gauge at 10 feet the flood did no damage below Edilpur.

Colonel Goodwyn estimated the discharge at Edilpur with a mean depth of flood of 10 feet at 253,082 cubic feet, and a flood to-day under similar conditions will give much the same discharge. What I wish to point out is that 10 feet on the Edilpur gauge and a "mean depth" of 10 feet are two totally different things : in fact, according to my calculation, the discharge of the river with a gauge reading of 10 feet is only half what it would be with a "mean depth" of 10 feet. What Lieutenant Heywood was doubtless attempting to prove was that, if half the flood-water of the Damoodar was stored, there would be little or no damage to the country below Edilpur. Colonel Dickens estimated the duration of a flood to be four days, and that it would, therefore, be necessary to store 100,000 millions of cubic feet, whereas Lieutenant Garnault calculated that half that quantity would suffice. This latter estimate agrees almost exactly with the figures given in paragraph 31 above.

38. Regarding reservoir sites my own opinion is that they should be selected as near as possible to the confluence of the two rivers, in order to ensure the greater portion of the catchment area being above the reservoirs. In the lower reaches of the rivers the slope of the bed is also much smaller (about 4·5 feet per mile), so that for the same height of dam a much longer reservoir is possible.

I inspected the lower portions of the Damoodar and Barakur rivers in December last, and have selected three sites which I think would be capable of storing 100,000 cubic feet a second for 40 hours by means of masonry dams not exceeding 70 feet in height. No site nearer the junction of the two rivers is possible owing to the number of coal-mines close to the river banks. On the Barakur river the first site selected is immediately above the railway bridge, but the second site which is about 8 miles higher up is the more suitable, as the foundation would be on rock at a moderate depth, and the length of dam would be small compared with the possible storage capacity of the reservoir. On the Damoodar the site selected also gives promise of a rock foundation.

It would no doubt be possible to obtain sites suitable for the storage of the balance of the 50,000 millions of cubic feet required, but a glance at the tables in paragraph 35 will suffice to show that most of the sites are disadvantageous both as regards height and length of dam, and being in isolated places the construction of the reservoirs would not only be costly, but would also be an undertaking of considerable difficulty.

39. When the question of reservoirs was being considered in 1866, Government was then hopeful that the proposed Damoodar canal would be so remunerative as to be able to bear the whole cost of the reservoirs, and that the inundated area would be thereby protected without the necessity of imposing any additional burden on the zamindars.

Irrigation works in Bengal have not been a financial success, so there is no likelihood of the old irrigation canal scheme being revived ; and as regards a navigation canal, it would be impossible to construct one that would serve the coal trade as cheaply and expeditiously as the present railway system which is being so rapidly extended throughout the coal area.

If, therefore, the zamindars are desirous of protective works being carried out, they should be made clearly to understand that the whole of the cost will have to be borne by them. In these circumstances, it seems to me to be unnecessary to consider further any such proposal as that contained in paragraph 31 of this report, as the cost under the most favourable conditions would not be less than a crore and a quarter of rupees, and as I will attempt to show later on, the benefit which the inundated area would derive would be far from being commensurate with the expenditure to be incurred.

40. In my letter No. 1846, dated the 25th March 1901, I stated that in

solution, viz., to store up a certain portion of the flood-water of the Cossye and Selye rivers for a limited period, and that it would be advisable to depute some one during the next cold weather to enquire into the possibility of constructing reservoirs in the Cossye and Selye valleys at a reasonable cost.

It appears that Mr. DeMello in 1886 made an investigation of the upper reaches of the Cossye river with the view of ascertaining if there were any sites suitable for the formation of reservoirs. The results of his enquiry were communicated to Government with the Superintending Engineer, South-Western Circle's letter No. 4503, dated the 21st October 1886. Seven possible sites were reported on, namely, at—

(1) Kochanda in the Tarafuni khal.
(2) Phoolkoosma } in the Boirabanker nadi.
(3) Bansa nallah }
(4) Mokundpore in the Toolka nadi.
(5) Jambad
(6) Jotejinke } in the Cossye river.
(7) Amluka nuggur }

Of these, the Superintending Engineer wrote as follows :—

"The last three are on such an extensive scale, the catchments are so large and the escapes would consequently have to be of such an expensive character, that they may be set aside as out of the question."

The storage capacity at the other sites would be equal to a discharge of 50,000 cubic feet a second for 24 hours ; but as I am of opinion that isolated reservoirs are not suitable for the efficient control of floods, I should prefer to select a site on the main river and as near to Midnapore as possible. The Superintending Engineer reported that he did not consider the project worthy of consideration as he questioned if the water could be stored for Rs. 100 a million cubic feet, and it would probably cost more. The cost of the reservoirs would not be less than twenty-two lakhs of rupees.

In the main river the most convenient site would probably be at Sijwa Ghat (14 miles to the west of Midnapore), but as the foundations of the dam would have to be carried on wells, the cost of constructing the reservoir with the necessary escapes would be prohibitive.

41. The question of reservoirs in the valley of the Selye was investigated by Lieutenant Smyth, R.E., about 1868, with the result that fourteen possible sites were selected. The largest reservoir near Kudumdeolee, was estimated for in detail as an irrigation project; but, owing to the unsatisfactory results of the Midnapore and Orissa Canals, the question of storage reservoirs was dropped, and it has remained in abeyance up to the present day. Captain Mayne, in his report on Lieutenant Smyth's project, made the following remarks :—"Control the Damoodar and Cossye rivers, and there is no reason why the lower reaches of the Selye should not be free from bad inundations. * * *"

"But after all, it appears that the greatest damage by the floods is done in the neighbourhood of Ghatal, and the reservoirs will not stop the floods in this portion of the country (although they may modify them), unless the Damoodar and other rivers are also controlled."

42. The Damoodar flood of 1840 rolled over the banks of the Roopnarain, so likewise did the floods of 1900 and 1901. Captain Mayne's experience of the floods during his time seems to have been similar to mine, so I think it may safely be assumed that, in order to control the floods of the Cossye and Selye, it is first of all necessary to regulate the floods of the Damoodar. This I have already explained in paragraphs 31 and 32 of this letter, but for effective control I pointed out that it would be necessary to dam back 200,000 cubic feet a second for three days. After more detailed examination of the duration of the floods in the Damoodar, and looking to the fact that the floods of July 1897 and September 1900 were exceptional (they are the record floods since 1857), I am now convinced that, by retaining 100,000 cubic feet a second for 24 hours, some permanent benefit would be conferred, not only on the inundated area on the Damoodar right bank, but also on the lands within the Ghatal, Chetua and other adjoining circuits.

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43. It is not possible to calculate what the reduction of flood level would be in the neighbourhood of Gopeegunge by holding back the above quantity; but as the maximum rise of flood is about 12 feet, and as the reservoir above the Bakshi khal is low and fairly level, I think a reduction of three feet may be safely assumed. This would enable the flood-water of the Darkessur and Selye to get away; and although the flood level at Gopeegunge at its maximum would probably not be less than it is now, still the chances are that it would be the Damoodar flood that would be held back, and not the Selye. To prevent the Selye flood from rising too rapidly at Ghatal, it would also be necessary to retire the Chetua circuit embankment to something like the line shown in plan; and if this were done, it is probable that the remainder of the circuit would be absolutely secure, except during extraordinary floods which I have shown are of rare occurrence.

44. Before attempting to estimate the cost of storage reservoir required, I will now attempt a rough comparison of the state of cultivation as it was in 1859 with what it is at the present day, as ascertained by personal inspection both by myself and the Honorary Assistant Engineer, Babu Durga Churn Chuckerbutty.

In paragraph 9 above is given the names of the breaches which existed at the time of Mr. Hobhouse's inspection in 1859. These were 8 in number, and are marked on the accompanying plan, whereas, at the present time, there are only two, viz., at Lakra and Bengacha, and these have been considerably reduced during the last ten years. In a few more years they will probably close altogether.

45. In paragraph 8 the Collector noted that from Sangatgolah to Bamunia a little, but not much, injury had been done. From Bamunia to Hybutpore a very great deal of injury had been done; and from Kistopore to Kotesimool immense injury had been done by the flood-water let in through the Kistopore (Lakra) breach.

A reference to the map and to my note, which are printed as an appendix, will show that at the present day there are good crops up to Balaguree, so that the state of cultivation between Bamunia and Balaguree has considerably improved, and this is no doubt due to the breaches being almost closed, and also to their being possibly less depth of spill over the right bank than there used to be. From Balaguree to Begua I have marked roughly on the accompanying tracing the area of land (about 12 square miles) which has been left uncultivated since the embankments were removed in 1859. It is, however, satisfactory to be able to report that about one-third of this area is now being reclaimed owing to the contraction of the Lakra and Bengacha breaches.

From Begua to Kotesimool the country to-day is everywhere well cultivated, so that there has been considerable improvement here also.

46. In paragraph 11 the state of cultivation, as seen by the Collector of Hooghly, is given between Shahpore, close to Kotesimool, and Dihi Barsoot. The width of good crop along the right bank of the Damoodar is much the same to-day as it was then, but the waste area of 2 to 2½ miles in width referred to does not exist as far south as the Chapadangah road. In paragraph 4 of my inspection notes the evidence of the villagers in this neighbourhood was to show that the land had been considerably raised in recent years, that the waste land was being brought under cultivation; and that the Begua had formed for itself a defined channel as far as Markunda, where it is now 2,000 feet in width. As this river advances southwards, the low land will be filled up, and the area of cultivation will be still further increased and improved in consequence.

47. To the south of the Chapadangah road the area of good crops along the right bank of the Damoodar is from 3 to 4 miles in width as far as Puspore bungalow. The waste land is roughly marked in the accompanying tracing and measures about 19 square miles. With the exception of a small area, which is shown as having good crops, the remaining area is indifferently cultivated. To the west of this area, as far south as Hurrischuck, only

indifferent *rabi* crops are grown, while to the south of this again a large area is waste. The result of my enquiry may be briefly summarised as follows:—

(i) that the area of waste land has been doubled since the embankments were removed ;

(ii) that the land unfitted for cultivation, or indifferently cultivated, is now only 68,000 bighas against 165,089 bighas as estimated by the Special Deputy Collector.

48. The site, nature and cost of dam will now be considered.

As regards site, I have no hesitation in recommending the one which I have marked A on the survey map which accompanies this report. It is situated among the hills, where building material is plentiful, the gorge is fairly narrow ; the slope of river bed is probably not more than 6 feet a mile ; and the highest impounded water-level in the reservoir will be at least 150 feet below the East Indian Railway embankment. The size of reservoir required will be about 10 square miles with an average depth of 40 feet, but without a contour map of the country I am unable to say whether a dam, 60 feet in height, would give the storage capacity required. The country above the site of the dam is nearly all jungle and sparsely populated, so that small compensation would have to be paid for acquisition of the land.

49. I propose to deal with the Barakur river entirely, as the cost of constructing the necessary escapes for the reservoirs will be much less in the Barakur than they would otherwise be in the Damoodar. In the case of an extraordinary flood, lasting for two or three days, the whole of the flood discharge of the Barakur river, amounting to 180,000 cubic feet a second, would have to be passed out of the reservoirs by means of escapes ; whereas on the Damoodar the escapes would have to be equal to a discharge of 300,000 cubic feet a second. The total reduction of capacity from silt would also be greater in the Damoodar than in the Barakur reservoir.

50. The dam must be built of masonry, and the type, which I have selected, is that of the Nile dam at Assuan, where the depth of water to be impounded is 60 feet, but the dam is being built strong enough to stand a depth of 90 feet of water in front of it. With this depth of water the working of the sluices will be simple, and the velocity of discharge through the vents under 20 feet a second. Without a section of the river and some knowledge of the floods of the two rivers, I am unable to describe with accuracy how it will be necessary to work the under-sluices in the dam. Generally speaking, when the discharge of the Damoodar below the confluence of the rivers approaches 300,000 cubic feet a second, the lower sluices in the dam will be closed. These sluices must, therefore, be designed to discharge 100,000 cubic feet a second, and as soon as they are all shut down, the upper sluices should be so placed as to be capable of discharging the balance of an ordinary high flood, viz., 50,000 cubic feet a second. There will be 50 under-sluices, Stoney's pattern, $15' \times 8'$ with a similar number of upper sluices $8' \times 8'$. Under a "head" of 10 feet the lower vents will discharge 100,000 cubic feet a second, with a velocity of 16 feet.

51. In Indian rivers the first flood of the season contains the greatest quantity of silt, and as a considerable portion of this flood will be allowed to pass unimpeded through the under-sluices in the dam, I assume that the amount of silt which is likely to be deposited in the reservoir will be small, and even when the main portion of the flood is being impounded, I also anticipate that, by means of the upper sluices, the rate of silt deposit will be retarded. When the flood is of long duration I propose to use the upper sluices and also the crest of the dam as an escape, in order that the principal escapes of the reservoir may be reduced to a minimum.

As soon as the flood in the Damoodar has reached its maximum, the reservoir will be emptied as speedily as possible, care being taken that the maximum discharge (except in the case of extraordinary floods) shall at no time exceed 300,000 cubic feet a second. The effect of this method of control will be that in future a high flood will be impossible, but the river will be in moderate flood for a longer period, and will thus be better able to scour out and maintain its natural channel.

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52. Before estimating the cost of the reservoirs and the probable advantages to be gained by its construction, I will try to ascertain, as accurately as possible, the probable amount of silt which is likely to be deposited in the reservoir.

On this subject Captain Garnault, on his report on the Domoodar Canal, wrote as follows :—

"Colonel Strachey doubts the practicability of subduing floods by reservoirs, because he is not satisfied that they can be kept from filling up. I made some experiments last year with the water of the Damoodar and found that it contained 1 in 59 parts of solid matter by volume: this would make the rivers silt up in 59 years if filled ten times in a season (they probably would not be filled five times), perhaps in a shorter time owing to larger obstacles being rolled down than sand. The silting difficulty has been experienced in all countries in which reservoirs have been made, but remedial measures have been applied, and there is no reason why similar measures and others which experience has since brought forth, should not be applied to these."

In a recent note of Mr. Higham's on the proposed Cauvery reservoir, he considers three cases of silting :—

(*i*) Reservoir, full.

(*ii*) Reservoir, half full.

(*iii*) Reservoir empty, or at no higher level than is necessary for the purpose of passing through the sluice the discharge required.

Case (*iii*) is the one which should be applicable in the Barakur instance, as the reservoir will be emptied as soon as a flood has passed. This is no doubt the condition which is least favourable for the deposit of silt. Mr. Higham's opinion is that, even under these conditions, more than one-third of the silt in suspension will be deposited. His opinion is expressed in the following words :—

"The conclusion which I draw is that even in the most favourable circumstances, when a strong flood is passed through a nearly empty reservoir, a larger portion, probably more than half of the silt in suspension, will be trapped, and that it will not be possible to scour out silt (except in the immediate locality of the under-sluices) by passing heavy floods through an empty reservoir."

* * * * * *

"I am still of opinion that the amount of silt that will be intercepted during a working season is likely to be not less than half the whole quantity in suspension. There can be no doubt that a large portion of the silt must be trapped, as all the time the water is being impounded, the velocity in the lake must be very small, and to carry this silt away with a low river after the flow has passed will not be possible."

53. I have been unable to obtain any definite information about the rate of silting in reservoirs. Colonel Smart, Chief Engineer of the Irrigation Department in Madras, whom I consulted on the subject, has favoured me with the following opinion :—

"I believe myself that the silt objection has been much exaggerated, and that before condemning a reservoir on this account, methods of cleaning should be considered. For instance, in the Cauvery case I calculate that two-thirds of the yearly deposit could be cleared out by steamers and mud punts at a capital cost of 2 lakhs of rupees, and a yearly expenditure of Rs. 50,000."

I also consulted Mr. Strange, Under-Secretary to the Government of India, who has had wide experience of earthen dams in Western India, but even he could give me no definite information as to the probable rate of silting in the proposed Barakur reservoir.

The following extracts from a note by him on this question are interesting :—

"*Quantity of silt deposit.*—Experiments on the silting of reservoirs were made some years ago in the Bombay Presidency by measuring the actual depth of deposit in boxes placed on their floors. Other experiments were made by levelling carefully marked out section lines across certain reservoirs, and on these it was intended to plot the altered surface after silt had been deposited for some years. It is not known if the results of these experiments have been published and are available. The most recent experiments made in Bombay are those which have been, and are being, carried out by the Indus River Commission, Sind. These probably do not take into account the element of time required for the deposit of silt; the others certainly do not: this is, however, a matter of the greatest importance in the present case."

Mr. Strange thus goes on to state that silt may be divided physically into three classes :—

(*a*) *Coarse or heavy silt*—Which is practically kept in suspension only as long as the water is in motion, and is deposited as soon as its velocity is much checked.

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(*b*) *Medium silt*—Which remains in suspension for some time after the motion of the water ceases and may not be completely deposited for some days.

(*c*) *Fine silt*—Which remains suspended in mechanical solution, the greater bulk of it for a long time and all of it for some considerable time.

The total amount of silt brought down by a river and the proportions of it which fall under these three classes depend upon the nature of the catchment. In the present case it may be taken for granted that the whole of (*a*), some part of (*b*), and but very little of (*c*) will be deposited in the Barakur reservoir. What the actual amounts will be cannot be said with any exactness in the absence of experiments. It would, therefore, seem desirable that these should be made, with the element of time taken into account, whether it is determined to proceed with this project or to abandon it, as they will furnish very useful information which is otherwise probably not available.

Some experiments made about 1854 showed that in heavy floods in the Indus near Rohri (north of Sind the silt was $\frac{2}{10}$th) the bulk of the water and half of this ($\frac{4}{20}$th) was of the heavy description (*a*). The Indus is probably the most heavily silt-laden river in India. It must also be remembered that silt, when it is compressed and dried, will occupy far smaller bulk than it does when newly deposited.

Distribution of silt deposit.—The heaviest silt (*a*) will be deposited at the head of the reservoir. In the present case it will thus be exposed for the longest time to any influence tending to remove it that can be brought to bear on it. The medium silt (*b*) will to some extent, be deposited more quickly at the head of the reservoir, but the amount of its deposit will chiefly depend upon the depth of the water, as it will be distributed nearly evenly throughout its volume. The amount of deposit of the fine silt (*c*) will, for the same reason, depend almost entirely on the depth of the water. Thus we may safely assume that the greatest deposit on any cross section of the reservoir will be on the old bed of the river, and will increase the further that cross section is from the dam. This will be borne out by inspection of any old reservoir where it will be seen that the old channel bed is practically obliterated, and that the floor of the basin rises gently from the dam.

The Barakur reservoir will, however, differ from an ordinary one, in respect of the manner in which silt will be deposited, in that in it the water will be much less quiescent than it is in the case of the latter. In the high floods of the Indus, while the main river is rolling down as a muddy torrent, the spill-water between the flood embankments is at first but slightly tinged by the earliest overflow and becomes pellucidly clear after its silt is deposited, as this water is but slowly changed so long as the rivers remain at the same level. This is an extreme case, as here the discharging current is at a maximum and the impounded storage at a minimum, but the Barakur reservoir will, when the river is in flood and many large sluices are open, be similar as the bulk of the water in motion will be flowing along the central portion, while that at its sides will be fairly stationary and will not receive large fresh additions of silt.

54. The quantity of alluvium carried down by the Damoodar has been estimated by Captain Garnault at 1 in 590. This estimate appears to me to be excessive, as the estimated proportion of alluvium to discharge arrived at for the Hooghly is 1 in 2,444. For the Rhone it is 2,166, for the Mississipi it is 1 in 2,420, while the proportions estimated for the Danube and the Volga are much less. Assuming that the proportion for the Barakur is 1 in 1,200, that there are two floods a year, and that half the silt in suspension is kept back, the depth of silt deposited over the floor of the reservoir would only amount to a third of an inch per annum. Where so many assumptions have to be made, the above calculation is of little value, but I think it is sufficient to show that the rate of silting up of the reservoir will be comparatively slow.

55. As regards the cost of the dam, I have made a fairly accurate estimate, and assuming that independent escapes will not be required, the dam cannot be built for less than 32 lakhs of rupees, which is approximately

equivalent to a rate of Rs. 350 per million cubic feet of water stored, and I am perfectly convinced that the above is the minimum rate of storage, no matter in which valley the reservoir is made. It is a large sum to expend on first cost, and with interest charges amounting to not less than Rs. 1,50,000 a year, it seems to me that the possible benefit to be derived will be out of all proportion to the expenditure to be incurred.

56. I have now to consider the question of benefit, and when I come to analyze the possibilities, I regret to say that they are disappointingly small. In paragraph 47 of this letter I have shown that the state of cultivation in the inundated area is, on the whole, much better than it was forty years ago; that the land in advance of the defined channel of the Begua is being gradually raised, and as the Begua goes on scooping out for itself a broad and deep channel, so will the land on its banks be again brought under cultivation; and there is no doubt that the land so reclaimed will in the end become more fertile than corresponding land within the protected area on the left bank of the Damoodar. Doubtless, a certain portion of the land below the Begua breach would be benefited by the construction of the proposed reservoir, but I am unable to estimate the value of the benefit. I am inclined to think it would not be at all in proportion to the great cost of the protective works.

57. It is only a few days ago that I have come to know how little damage is done to the rice crop within the Chetua circuit. During the last few years, while I was Superintending Engineer of the South-Western Circle, the embankments suffered from disastrous floods. In 1898-99, 1900-1901 and 1901-1902 the Chetua circuit was inundated, but strange to say in 1897, the year of the highest flood recorded in the Damoodar during the last forty years, the Chetua circuit embankment was not breached, as the Cossye and the Selye rivers were not in flood at the same time.

The Ghatal circuit embankment is breached almost every year, but the area protected is small, and as the cultivators are invariably fortunate in securing a crop of *boro* rice or *til* when they lose their winter rice crop by floods, the loss to them even is not considerable.

In 1885 and 1887 the Chetua embankments were breached and the crops within the circuit damaged, but from 1887 to 1898 there was no loss of crop.

Even in years when the winter crop is lost owing to floods, the cultivators, by holding up a portion of the flood-water, can invariably secure for themselves a crop of *boro* rice or *til*. This is the largest circuit, being 83 square miles in area, and if I am correct in supposing that the cycle of disastrous floods has passed, this area would derive little benefit from the construction of a controlling reservoir on the Barakur river.

58. During the three years mentioned above, the annual expenditure on the embankments was about Rs. 50,000 in excess of the ordinary expenditure of previous years, but I venture to hope that the great excess was abnormal, and is not likely to occur again for years to come.

No saving would be affected in the construction of the Grand Chord Railway bridge across the Damoodar, as the bridge must be made large enough to pass the maximum flood of the river, viz., 500,000 cubic feet a second.

The saving in ordinary annual maintenance of the embankments would probably be under Rs. 20,000.

There seems, therefore, to be only one conclusion to be drawn, viz., that, even with the smaller storage reservoir proposed in this letter, the cost of its construction and the annual charge for its upkeep would be out of all proportions to the benefit which could be expected in return.

59 I am disappointed with the result of my enquiry, as I was hopeful that the smaller project would prove to be feasible, and it was only about a fortnight ago, when I turned my attention to the question of benefit, that I began to realize that even the smaller project was an impossibility.

There still remains, however, one possibility, and that is the training of the Begua in such a way as to encourage it to scour out its own channel. By the erection of temporary embankments to concentrate the spill, or by excavation of the bed in suitable places, it might be possible to accelerate the rate at which the Begua has been working in the past.

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If this were successful, the temporary bunds would be removed and new ones constructed in front to encourage still further advance of the river channel. If the Begua could in this way be induced to scour out a channel capable of discharging 100,000 cubic feet a second, my second proposal of storage would be gained in this way, possibly at considerably less cost, but the process would take a longer time. If the river could be trained for five miles so as to form an early junction with the Mandesswari below the Jehanabad road, a great object would be gained, as the land is low to the south of this road, and as soon as the river could discharge itself direct into this low land, the reclamation would be rapid.

The land between the two rivers during the last 40 years is being slowly built up, and when the process is complete, the property will be a valuable one.

The zamindars and raiyats must have patience for a little while longer. Their position is better now than it has been in the past, and the condition of things is slowly improving. I have requested Mr. Maconchy, the Executive Engineer of the Northern Drainage and Embankment Division, to make the necessary surveys of the Begua river with the view of ascertaining if there is any prospect of training the river as proposed and at a reasonable cost.

60. The following is a brief summary of this letter :—

(1) It was only after many discussions, prolonged over a period of years, viz., from 1846 to 1854, that Government decided eventually to abandon a length of 20 miles of the right embankment of the Damoodar extending from Sangatgolah downwards.

(2) There can be no doubt that Government made a wise decision in abandoning a portion of the right embankment. The country on the right of the Damoodar had always been liable to floods owing to imperfect embankments ; flood-levels show that the Rupnarain river is the natural outlet of the Damoodar ; that if the embankments on the left of the Damoodar had also been abandoned, much of the land and many of the villages to the south of Burdwan would now be in the flood season in a miserable plight ; the East Indian Railway would also be liable to annual breaches ; and all this, without any compensating advantage being secured for the unprotected villages on the right bank.

(3) In order to alleviate the distress which was caused to the villages by the abandonment of the right embankment projects for storage reservoirs in the upper reaches of the Damoodar and Barakur rivers were considered between 1864 and 1866. Certain sites were selected, and the Lieutenant-Governor recommended that five reservoirs should be constructed in order to supply the irrigation and navigation canal which it was proposed to construct between Raniganj and Calcutta. It was estimated that the irrigation scheme would be so remunerative that the whole cost of the reservoirs could be borne by it, and that, thereby, no additional burden would be thrown on the zamindars for flood protection.

The Government of India and the Secretary of State were of opinion that the scheme would not prove to be a financial success, and ordered its postponement until the prospects of the Midnapore and Orissa canals were assured.

With the exception of the enquiry which was made in 1888, and which led to the abandonment of another 10 miles of embankments in 1890, the question of protective works for the inundated area has remained in abeyance ever since.

(4) In 1853 Captain Dickens was of opinion that the bed of the Damoodar was rising. In 1864 Lieutenant Garnault was certain that the bed was rising. After comparing all the gauge readings at Edilpur from 1857 to 1901, the evidence seems to be that little or no change has taken place in the bed of the river during the last 40 years.

[*Lt.-Col. Joly de Lotbinière.*]

(5) During the highest flood on record in July 1897 the maximum discharge of the Damoodar was 500,000 cubic feet per second, but for an ordinary high flood which corresponds to a reading of 15 feet on the Edilpur gauge, the discharge does not exceed 400,000 cubic feet a second. The longest duration of a flood was 60 hours in September 1900, but ordinarily a flood remains at its highest for not more than 24 hours.

(6) To give absolute protection to the country would necessitate the storage of 200,000 cubic feet a second for three days at an estimated cost of not less than one and a quarter crore of rupees. As the zamindars would have to bear the whole of this vast expenditure, it was not considered necessary to treat this project seriously.

(7) Projects for storage reservoirs in the Selye were considered in 1868, when 14 sites were selected. The Cossye river was investigated in 1868, when four sites were selected as being suitable, but the question of reservoirs in both valleys was dropped on the score of expense of construction, and the probability of little revenue being derived from them as irrigation projects.

(8) This enquiry has shown that in order to control the floods of the Cossye and Selye rivers it is first of all necessary to control the Damoodar, and when this is done, immediate protection is given to the embankments on the other rivers.

(9) After a more detailed examination of the duration of ordinary floods, it was considered that a smaller scheme, viz., to store 100,000 cubic feet a second for 24 hours in the Barakur river would give reasonable protection to the land and villages in the inundated area, and also to the Ghatal and Chetua circuit embankments.

(10) The cost of the scheme is estimated to be thirty-two lakhs of rupees, and the annual cost of maintenance at not less than one and-a-half lakhs of rupees.

(11) On enquiring into the area that would be protected, it was found that the benefit to be derived would be small compared with the great cost of the work and its annual up-keep afterwards. Even the smaller scheme is not possible, although no difficulty need be feared from the possibility of the reservoir silting up within a reasonable time.

(12) There is still one possibility left, and that is the training of the Begua river. If this is feasible, the cost will probably be less, although the process will take a longer time.

Before concluding this letter, I desire to express my acknowledgments of valuable assistance received, particularly from Mr. C. A. White, Executive Engineer of the Cossye Division, also from Babu Bama Churn Paramanic, Honorary Assistant Engineer, Babu Durga Churn Chuckerbutty, Honorary Assistant Engineer, Babus Rama Nath Sircar, Aghore Nath Chatterjee and Jotindra Nath Banerjee.

The following is the list of enclosures which accompanies this letter :—

Appendix A.
Map of inundated area.
Survey map showing position of dam.
Section of proposed masonry dam.
Section across gorge at site of dams.
Diagrams of tidal curves in the Rupnarain.

I have the honour to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient servant,

D. B. HORN,

Superintending Engineer, on Special duty.

[*Lt.-Col. Joly de Lotbinière.*]

Extracts (Appendix A) from notes made during my inspections of the inundated country between the Damoodar and Roopnarain rivers in the months of November and December 1901.

IN Sangatgolah, during the time of highest flood, the depth of water is only 18 inches. To the east of the village there is a breach 40 feet wide with 6 feet of water running through it at high flood. But there is practically no breach in the right bank between Sangatgolah and Edilpur. At Kumirkola there was a large breach, but it was effectually closed before last rainy season, and is now being silted up. I then struck across country to Kandaghosh until I came to the kutcha road which runs from Burdwan to Bankura. The rice crop was everywhere good, although during the height of flood in September the country was 3 feet under water. The flood was a high one, as the gauge at Edilpur on the 5th September registered 15 feet 7 inches. In Khejurhatti the villagers said the flood-water did not enter their village, and everywhere the crop was good. In Shosangah there was a foot of water on the road and in Saloon the fields were 4 feet under water. This was corroborated by another villager, who pointed out the flood mark on an old bridge, a great portion of which was washed away some forty years ago.

In Sangatgolah an old resident told me that the country near the river bank had been filled up 3 feet since the embankments were removed.

2. In Kamalpore a portion of the old embankment, about 3 feet high, is still standing. The crops inside are all good and where the early rice crop has been harvested, the land is being prepared for winter crops. The depth of spill over the river bank is 2 feet. The Assistant Engineer, Babu Durga Churn Chuckerbutty, inspected the crops on the east of Jehanabad road to Machkara and on the west to Doychanda, and found them good. In Palainpore there is little cultivation along the bank as it is mostly wood. The depth of spill-water is a foot or little more. Up to Bangacha the country is rather sandy, and the depth of water of river bank is 2 feet. All along in front of Bangacha there is a large amount of *khashi* grass which holds back the sand, so that the depth of spill is not more than 18 inches. At Bangacha there is the remains of a breach which must have been much wider than it is now. This is one of the breaches referred to in Lieutenant Garnault's report on 1862. The breach is closed by a spur bund 300 feet in length, and is breached every year. The river spills across its bank up to Jackta where it is only a foot. The chaukidar at Jackta stated that there was 6 to 7 feet of water on the low land for five or six days, but on the high land the flood only lasted one day. Everywhere the rice crop was good.

3. In Beeropore and Nathoo two breaches occurred during last rains. The rush of water through them must have been great, as large mango trees have been overturned. The breaches are extensive, and sand has been carried across country for a very great distance. In many places 2 to 3 feet depth of sand has been left on the ground even at some considerable distance from the breaches, and if they are not closed, the land will be thrown out of cultivation. The rice crop will not be an average one. Travelled through the rice-fields as far as Boro, and found the crop excellent, notwithstanding that the depth of water over the fields in Boro and Balaguree was 8 feet. The rice crop must, therefore, have been under 3 feet of water for at least three days. I then crossed over to Sadipore, and thence along the river bank through Lakra, Berugram, Bolorampore, Janculi and Kalara to the Jamalpore bungalow. I measured the depth of spill which passed over the bank at Sadipore, and found it to be 2½ feet.

At Lakra (which is known in old reports as Kistopore) the breach, which was 1,700 feet in 1890, is now only 600 feet, the remainder of the spur bund having been silted up to high flood level. Over the open part of the bund there is a depth of 6 feet of water during high floods. Near Berugram, the depth of water over the country is 3 feet, and now that the Lakra breach has become so reduced, the land, which was formerly covered with *khashi* grass is now being rapidly reclaimed.

[*Lt.-Col. Joly de Lotbinière.*]

In front of Bolorampore the depth of spill is 4 to 5 feet, but notwithstanding all the land outside the old embankment from Berugram to Bolorampore is covered with luxuriant sugarcane, plantain gardens, rice and *rabi* crops.

At Janculi, the breach, which opened out for a length of 1,400 feet in 1883, and was still the same width in 1891, is now practically closed. During the last five or six years a village has sprung up in what was once the middle of the breach. There is 3 feet of water over the ground at the time of high flood. A strange feature in connection with this breach is that the deep channel of the river is in front of it.

The whole of the country between Janculi and Lakra is now being reclaimed from *khashi* grass and planted with rice.

Below Lakra to Ungoona there was formerly three square miles of country under *khashi* grass, of which only one-fourth is lying waste, the remainder being brought under rice and *rabi* cultivation. The crop is an average one. From Ungoona to Adumpore there is a stretch of low land about three miles long by two miles wide, half of which is under cultivation; the remainder is covered with *khashi* and *bena* grass. The state of the rice crop is not good.

At Jehangirpur the depth of spill was 3 feet.

From Sreekistopore I went inland for a mile where the depth of water during flood was 4 feet. The crops are poor, said to be due to the want of rain in July and August for transplanting.

At Kamaguree I came to the Bachordah khal which has evidently been silted up. Depth of water over the land was said to have been 7 feet and in the khal 15 feet. About a square mile of country seems to have had no crop, but it is now being prepared for winter crops. On the higher land jute has been reaped, and *rabi* crops are being sown. All the former waste land seems now being brought under cultivation. Between this and the Begua breach I passed through some excellent rice crops, which are now protected by the Sassunpur embankment.

At the Begua breach the depth of spill over the land is 4 feet.

4. At Pursoorah (behind the Damoodar left embankment) and opposite Chapadanga the depth of flood-water over the fields is 3 feet. At Shodpur nala 50 feet wide and 6 feet deep, the flood-water rises 5 feet over the bank. A little further on are two branches of this nala, of the same width, but not so deep. About the 3rd mile of the Jehanabad road there is a bridge about 150 feet long which is completely buried under sand. Crops up to this point on both sides, are good, but *khashi* grass is again visible with rice in patches (possible reclamation).

At Moishnan the fields are higher than the old road, and at Samtarnath a cultivator stated that the flood-water was only 3½ feet over his fields, and that the land had been raised from 4 to 5 feet by sand brought down by the floods. He further stated that there was cultivation here before the Begua breach took place, but after that the land became waste. It is now being reclaimed, and produces two crops. I then came to the Bashi nala which is 50 feet wide and 5 feet deep. This nala is being filled in with sand, and a cultivator informed me that within the last ten years it has been silted up 15 feet, and that the land on the banks has been raised 4 feet. The depth of flood-water on the land is now only 4 feet, and the crops are good, with patches of *khashi* grass in between. At 5th mile of the road is Harrinkhola-hât on the banks of the Mandeswari. I took the evidence of an old inhabitant of the village who said that the flood-level is getting higher, and that the flooded area is a mile wider on each side than it used to be. It now extends to Pursoorah on the east and Ballorampur on the west. Formerly the flood-level near the Damoodar right embankment at Pursoorah was 6 inches, now it is 4 to 5 feet.

At Harrinkhola the land has been raised 4 to 5 feet. Formerly the Mandeswari was the drainage channel of the country coming from Kaithi and had no connection with Begua. Now it has been joined to the Begua for the last 20 years.

[*Lt.-Col. Joly de Lotbinière.*]

I then turned north, and went to village Melancha on the left bank of the Mandeswari which has an average width of 130 feet and 8 feet depth of water. The height of the river bank is about 10 feet and depth of flood-water over the bank 4 feet. I found the crops good. In Tuckeepore a villager informed me that they had been trying to remove the *khashi* grass for the last ten years, and that in his lifetime (50 years) they had never got crops before. There was 7 feet of water over the land for three days.

A mile to the south of Keshubpore the rice crops are very good, and in the village I interviewed Kazi Kabillade, who said the country is being filled up with sand, and around the masjid there is 4 to 5 feet depth of sand. Adjoining the masjid there is an *atchala*. The floor of this building was formerly 7 feet above ground; it is now only 2 feet. He said that the flood-level must be greater now, as the floor of the masjid must have been built above flood-level. Now there is 3 feet of water over the floor. Keshubpore is on the banks of the Mandeswari, which is 500 feet wide and 10 feet deep. In flood time there is 4 feet of water over the bank. This river is said to be getting wider but shallower. A little to the north of the village there is a zamindari embankment which Honorary Assistant Engineer, Bama Churn Paramanic, inspected some ten years ago. It was then 8 feet high; now it is only 3 feet above ground level. To the east of the village there is about half a square mile of country out of cultivation, but on the west of the Mandeswari the rice crop is good.

I then turned eastwards when I crossed an old spill channel 300 feet wide which is being rapidly silted up.

On the left bank the bed is little more than a foot below ordinary ground level. At Hurnikhali the depth of flood-water over the land is 5 feet.

Between Hurnikhali and Alati, there are several spill channels, which will disappear within the next two or three years. The higher land between them is now being cultivated.

I then passed through Dihibatpur, where there is 6 feet of water over the land for two days, and thence to the right embankment of the Damoodar. During my journey I came across little or no uncultivated land, and in many places the rice crop was excellent and of first-class quality.

5. I then crossed from Jearah to Boikuntpur. Between it and Shoaluk there is 5 feet depth of water in flood time.

The rice crop is only an average one, and, as far as I could see north and south from the back of an elephant, there was no *khashi* grass, the whole country being under rice. In the village Shoaluk a villager pointed out the height of flood, which was 7 feet over the ground.

He explained also that it was only the late transplanted rice which had suffered.

Passing the village, I came to a spill channel, and a cultivator stated that the land had been raised 2 feet during the last few years by an overflow of sand.

Previous to that the land was cultivated. The sand first came to the north of the village, and was now extending to the south.

The floods have been higher during the last six or seven years.

In Shoaluk Markunda a resident said the flood was 7 feet above the ground and lasted for 24 hours; that the spill channel was an old one, and was formerly 12 to 15 feet deep, but during the last four or five years it had been filled with sand and was now only 3 to 4 feet deep.

The land has been raised 3 feet during the last four years.

In Markunda itself the land has been raised 3 feet during the last seven or eight years. Around the village the crops are excellent consisting of sugarcane and rice, and winter crops are also being cultivated.

A little way beyond Markunda I came to the Bogua which is a well-defined river about 2,000 feet wide, banks 8 feet high, and depth of flood-water over the bank about 4 feet. The land on both banks is cultivated and the rice crop is average; winter crops are being sown. I then turned towards the east, and crossed an old khal close to the village of Shahpur. It is 60 feet wide and depth of water 15 feet. The water level is about 3 feet below the ground. I found good crops on both banks of this nala, and on the left bank the sugarcane was particularly good. In the village the

depth of flood-water is 5 feet. In Kushigunge the crops are also good, and depth of flood-water the same.

In the evening at Chapadangah, Mr. Golam Hossein, Honorary Magistrate, and other inhabitants of Rasulpore and Alati, came to see me, and represented that there had been no rice crops for the last five years, and that the present crop was due to there being no flood in the Damoodah until September. They prayed that some means might be adopted to save their houses from being destroyed, as the floods were becoming worse every year, and they suggested that the Begua breach might be closed.

6. From Chapadangah I crossed the fields to Dhapdara Serampore, and thence between Bulrampore and Hati to Hurrooah, where I met the Singer Khal. The zamindari embankment shown in the one-inch survey map has become useless. In Dhapdara some of the houses have fallen, and the villagers said that during the floods they had to live in trees. There was 7 feet of water over the land which lasted four or five days. The villagers also said that the floods had been increasing during the last three years.

From Dhapdara there is a stretch of lowland uncultivated for about two miles long and a quarter of a mile broad. The crops on both sides are also poor.

At Bulrampore there is 6 feet of water on the highland, and 7 feet on the lowland during flood time. Some of the houses in the village have fallen. The flood lasted for three days and then fell about a foot a day, but the current was not strong. In Hati the crops are also poor, and *khashi* grass is again visible. I also found sand on the land which seems to be extending towards the east. At Hurrooah in the Singer Khal, the flood is said to be 5 feet over the bank. The khal is 70 feet wide with 4 feet of water in it, and the banks are 8 feet above water level. A flood is said to last three days. I then went along the bank of the khal, and noted that the crop was slightly better to the west. Further on, I observed that the country to the west, as far as Gopalda, is covered with *khashi* grass. It is also shown waste in the survey map of the district. The crops on the east side are poor with some patches of average sugarcane crop. In Goldighri there is 4 feet of flood-water over the fields. Between Goldighri and Oodna the rice crop is average. In Neotta the flood-water is said to be 8 feet over the country. I was a little sceptical about the height of flood shown to me by the villagers, but I was able to corroborate their statement from marks on some trees beyond the village.

Between Neotta and Rampore zamindari embankment on the east, the land is low; there is still water in the fields, but the rice crops will average ten annas. In Pantehuree there is no rice crop; in fact, the land is "parti". Inside the Rampore embankment the rice crop is not worth cutting. The embankment is breached in several places, and they are not worth repairing, as the embankment on the south is low, so that the circuit is practically open. I made out the height of water on the bank to be 9 feet. I had a long conversation with a villager of Pantehuree, named Dobir Khunkar (priest). He said the cultivating class had disappeared, and those who remained in the village worked as daily labourers. He informed me that several huts had fallen down in the villages of Pantehuree and Balipur, and he complained bitterly of the introduction of the chaukidari tax this year. I then went to Daspore. The flood was 8 feet above the country, and some 20 to 25 houses in the village had fallen down. The land is "parti" with the exception of a few isolated patches of poor rice and poorer *rabi*.

The villagers also said that the flood was higher and the current stronger than last year, that the flood lasted four days and then fell at the rate of a foot a day. They also informed me that the crop to the west is about four annas.

The country to the south of Daspore, as far as could be seen from the howdah, is either all waste land or very nearly so. I then turned towards the east, and came to the circuit embankment at Pairapore which is said to have existed for a long time. Babu Prosunno Bose of Khorope repaired it last year, but it is now breached in several places, and the flood-water inside the circuit was at least 8 feet high. The crops in the lower side are poor, but inland at Singti Shibpur and other villages, the sugarcane is luxuriant.

At Junglepara I crossed an old spill channel of the Damoodar which comes from Dehi Borsoot, on my way to Puspore bungalow.

7. I crossed from Puspore to Jooguldah, and found the rice crops and sugarcane poor, and a great deal of uncultivated land. A cultivator informed me that flood-water does not enter his village as a rule, but it has done so for the last three years. The depth of flood-water is 1 foot 6 inches. There is a zamindari bund at Puspore, 4 feet high and 3 feet crest; inside the embankment there is 4 feet of flood-water, and in some places the crop is good, while in others there is no crop.

In Singti Dukhin there was 3 feet of water during the high flood of this year. Early rice has been harvested and winter crops sown. The land is fertile, and although the rice crop is only six annas, this is due to late transplantation owing to unfavourable rainfall in the months of July and August: the flood-water is beneficial.

In Raichuck the depth of water was 4 feet. In Rabirampore there is a circuit embankment which is 4 feet high and 3 feet crest. The bund was overtopped 18 inches during the highest flood of this year. The bund is an old one, and was constructed to hold up water.

From the elephant I noted the crops up to Goomghur on the south and Mansuri on the west. There is no doubt the soil is fertile, and with favourable rains the crops would be good. As it is they are average. At Sonatolla there was 2 feet 6 inches of water during flood time, and it fell in two days, that is over a foot a day. This was on the land adjoining the road from Bargachia to Khanakul.

No sand or silt comes here, as the flood-water is clear. Notwithstanding the land is fertile and the sugarcane round the village is luxuriant.

From Chand Chuck I saw the state of crops up to Mustafapore three miles to west. The condition of crop up to Magree Jollah is good. There is no zamindari bund, and the depth of water over the fields in flood time was 7 feet.

In the Magree Jollah the land is permanently waste, and there is water on it still. The jollah extends up to Mustafapore on the west and Makhalpore on the south.

I should say that the boundary of good crops (that is sugarcane) is Chand Chuck, but the rice in the lowland is good.

I then travelled south, leaving Goomghur on the left and came to Chand Chuck Dukhin, where a cultivator informed me that just west of Mustafapore a new nala from Begua passes which is widening and deepening. The old Mondessari is three miles west of Mustafapore.

For sixteen years the floods have been high, and many huts have fallen in the village this year.

At the south end of the jollah, as far as I could see, the rice crop seemed good. At Koteshay the height of flood was 5 feet for three days and then subsided in four days.

The state of crops further south is said to be good, but to the west of Mustafapore they are poor. On the border of Koteshay I came across the old khal that comes from Dehi Borsoot, and I was told that it is being silted up. I then passed through Makhalpore to Ranjobar and found crop good. From Ranjobar the country changes. There is little or no sugarcane to be seen, simply rice. In Sheoraberai there is rice all round, which would have been a good crop had the rainfall been seasonable at the time of transplanting. There was 3 feet 6 inches of water over the fields in this village, and the villagers said it would have done good had it come earlier.

I passed through Hamdara and thence to Ampta.

8. As it was more easy to inspect the remainder of the country from the Roopnarain side, I proceeded up the Bakshi khal. On the left at the entrance is the Bakshi circuit embankment which is at least 12 feet high, and was not breached during the September flood, and the rice crop inside is good. Adjoining is the Kurriguria circuit. The south and east embankments are breached, but the northern boundary is intact. The rice crop in this circuit where it does exist is not two annas. The country to the east of the Sabgathtola khal is all open and uncultivated. To the north is the Kashimooli circuit in which the rice crop is good. Outside the north bound-

[*Lt.-Col. Joly de Lotbinière.*]

ary of this circuit and as far as I could see—north, east and west—the whole country is covered with jungle grass, but perfectly dry.

Returning I went along the cross khal to the Jypore circuit embankment, and along it to Saoria village. The embankments are as shown on the inch-to-a-mile map, but the Saoria embankments are interior ones and breached. The Jypore embankment is good, but the khal embankment is breached in many places. The Jypore circuit has been cultivated for the last 20 years, but this year's rice crop was lost, also *rabi* crop owing to recent cyclone.

The Khalla circuit has not been cultivated for seven years. It was reclaimed 23 years ago, but has only been cultivated four years. It is now grown over with *bena* grass.

Went up Ponadara khal to Batra. The country is all open, but the rice crop is not good. Some patches are good, but they are the exception.

9. Entered the Pansuli khal, and travelled by launch to Joria Chuck where the flood-water was pointed out to have been 10 feet over the land. Got into a small native boat as the current was too strong for the jolly-boat, and proceeded to Hurrish Chuck. So far as I could see, the country is covered with *khashi* grass, but I was told that in places there are small patches of cultivation. About half a mile to the south of Hurrish Chuck there is a jheel, which is probably caused by the small silted-up drainage channel which leads out of it. To the south of this *boro* rice is cultivated.

Travelled by boat up to Chengra which is opposite Balaguree. The branch khal shown in the inch map to the south of the village still exists, and passes the village of Mustafapore. At Balaguree the main khal is 400 feet wide and 10 feet deep, but immediately above Chengra it again becomes small. During floods there is 5 to 6 feet of water over all the country from Hurrish Chuck to Chengra.

From Chengra I could see the country for miles right away beyond Damlah. There is no rice crop, and only poor *rabi* crops are cultivated.

In Chengra and Mustafapore the rice crop is about 4 annas.

To the north of Hurrish Chuck there is still a good deal of jungle grass to be seen, but there are also patches of poor *rabi* between. There is also similar cultivation to the east of the village.

At Shashabat on my return journey from marks on the trees I found the depth of flood-water over the land must have been 11 to 12 feet.

The accompanying map gives a fair idea of the state of cultivation in the whole of the inundated country.

No. 547*I.*, dated Calcutta, the 26th March, 1902.

From—D. B. Horn, Esq., Offg. Chief Engineer, Bengal,
To—The Superintending Engineer, South-Western Circle.

In forwarding you copies of my report* on the measures which can be adopted to mitigate the extent of the damage which is frequently caused by the Damodar floods, I have the honour to request that you will be good enough to forward a copy to each of the Executive Engineers of the Cossye and Northern Drainage and Embankment Divisions for an expression of their opinion on the suggestions made in the report.

*No 1, dated the 21st February, 1902.

2. I should be much obliged if you would kindly favour me with further information on the following points :—

(*i*) Is it possible to increase the discharge of the Rupnarain river at the junction of the Baksi khal? The discharge of this khal is considerably restricted at its mouth. Mr. White, I understand, has made enquiry as to whether there is obstruction to the Damodar flood on the left bank of the Rupnarain, and I should like to know the result of his enquiry. The opinion formed by me during my enquiry was that the flood discharge is not obstructed.

(*ii*) Have you any alternative to suggest in place of my proposed retirement of the Chetua embankment?

[*Lt.-Col. Joly de Lotbinière.*]

(*iii*) If the smaller reservoir scheme (paragraph 42 of the report) were sanctioned, what would be the probable annual benefit to the Ghatal, Chetua and other circuits?

(*iv*) In paragraph 33, the surplus flood-water of the Cossye and Selye floods is, in my opinion, exaggerated. The discharges are calculated on a rainfall of 8 inches in the 24 hours, whereas in paragraph 26 in adjoining areas the average rainfall is shown to have been equal only to a net flow-off of 3·13 inches in the 24 hours. Will you kindly state your opinion?

3. I wish to draw your special attention to Appendix A of the report in which I have noted the state of cultivation as observed by me during my inspection of the inundated area in November and December last, and to request that in future you will instruct Executive Engineers of the Cossye and Northern Drainage and Embankment Divisions to draw up in each year a joint report on similar lines, so that any improvement in cultivation may be observed from year to year.

4. To keep the Executive Engineer of the Cossye Division informed of the floods in the Damodar, a copy of the Edilpur gauge reading should be sent daily; and as long as the gauge reading is above 12, a daily telegram should be sent, so that the Executive Engineer may be prepared to study the effect of the flood on the country to the north of the Baksi khal. To assist in the study of these floods in the Rupnarain, additional gauge readings are necessary, and I would suggest that new gauges be fixed at the sites marked* in the accompanying map, and the readings be observed regularly during the flood season.

* By red cross.

No. 151T.—*I.*, dated Darjeeling, the 3rd June, 1902

From—D. B. Horn, Esq., Officiating Chief Engineer, Bengal,
To—The Superintending Engineer, South-Western Circle.

In continuation of my letter No. 547*I.*, dated the 26th March, 1902, I have again the honour to address you on the subject of the control of the floods of the Damodar river.

2. In paragraph 60 (2) of the report, which was forwarded with the above letter, it is stated that there can be no doubt that Government made a wise decision in removing a portion of the right embankment. As it has been brought to my notice that this fact has not been convincingly proved in the report, I now send you extracts from volume XII of the Proceedings of 1852 regarding the Damodar embankments.

3. I was not aware of the existence of this volume at the time of writing my report, but I trust that the following extracts will conclusively show that the most beneficial solution, in the interests of the districts, was to remove a portion of the right embankment, and that this opinion was generally shared in by the inhabitants of the areas affected.

4. I have been unable to obtain a copy of the report of the Committee of 1846, but it was evidently of no great value, as Mr. Ricketts, of the Board of Revenue, characterized it as a crude production. The Committee, it would appear from his note, was in favour of abandoning both embankments.

5. The following extract from the report of Mr. Drummond, Collector of Burdwan, dated January, 1852, is interesting:—

> It is part of Lieutenant Impey's plan to extend next year the principle of retirement, which has been introduced on the left, to the right bank of the Damodar. The cost of this will be considerable, and the injury to many villages and estates extensive, and, before entering upon such a work, it may be well to ascertain, by careful enquiry, whether the embankment on that side might not, with benefit to all parties, be dispensed with altogether.
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> The general feeling of the country, so far as I have been able to ascertain it, is decidedly—and almost universally—in favour of such a course of proceeding; the only point upon which stress is laid is that the abandonment, if any, should be universal along the entire right bank.
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6. In the report, which was forwarded to you with my previous letter, reference was made to three proposals which were submitted to Government, but I have since ascertained that there were four proposals, the first one being the formation of two huge mounds with canals or catch-drains attached,

[*Lt.-Col. Joly de Lotbinière.*]

one of them extending from Howrah, in the direction of Burdwan, as far as the great bund of the Damodar; the other, east and west, between Sankrail and Ampta. This scheme was abandoned on account of its great expense, and because the railway which was to have shared the expense had been taken in another direction.

7. The whole question was referred by the Governor-General in Council, for final decision, to Major Baker, Consulting Engineer for Railways. He chose the fourth plan for the following reasons :—

Whereas it may be possible to provide a free escape over the right bank, the embankments on the left will be greatly relieved, and the country behind it will be placed in comparative safety, while by providing a larger space for the deposit of silt, the process of raising the river-bed and the formation of sand banks will be retarded.

It is true that a certain tract of country would be subjected to frequent immersion during the rainy season, and will be cultivated, if at all, under considerable risk, but its total area is small compared with that of the lands which would be protected to the eastward.

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In favour of this plan, it is further stated by Mr. Ricketts, Member of the Sadar Board of Revenue, in a note on the management of embankments, that "the zamindars are so well aware of the inefficiency of the existing state of things that all those who have property on both sides are (he believes) quite prepared to agree that the embankments on the right bank should be abandoned, provided those on the left are so strengthened as to make breaching impossible."

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It was also pointed out in 1852 "that on the left bank, between the Damodar and Hooghly, there were basinlike hollows which, if the left embankment were removed, might become permanent lakes or swamps, unculturable and malarious."

8. I will now discuss the question of feasibility, on financial grounds, of carrying out the scheme of constructing a reservoir in the Barakur Valley capable of containing a discharge of 100,000 cubic feet a second for 24 to 30 hours, which is the average period of duration of a high flood in the Damodar. The total area inundated (*i*) by an extraordinary flood is 379 square miles, and (*ii*) by an ordinary high flood, 365 square miles. I have assumed that the difference between a flood of 500,000 cubic feet a second and one of 400,000 cubic feet a second would reduce the depth of water in the submerged area to the north of the Chapadangah road by 2 feet; to the south of the road for ten miles, by 2½ feet, and for the remainder of the area, by 3 feet.

The submerged area is roughly cultivated as follows :—

	Square miles
Good crop (180+96) = ...	276
Waste area (10+39·5) = ...	49·5
Indifferent crop	28·5
Boro rice	21·0
Jheel	4·0
Total ...	379

The construction of the proposed reservoir on the Barakur river would confer little or no benefit on the area which now produces good average crops. Of the waste area, possibly 30 square miles would be greatly benefited within five years of the completion of the reservoir, but the remainder of the area above the Baksi khal, coloured yellow on the map, must always remain waste, as it has to bear the brunt of the Damodar floods, and the Cossye and Selye as well.

[*Lt.-Col. Joly de Lotbinière.*]

9. The following is an approximate estimate of the value of the crops which might be produced on the 30 square miles of waste area :--

	Cost of cultivation of one bigha of rice
	Rs.
Ploughing, four times, at 12 annas	3
Transplanting, four coolies, at 8 annas	2
Weeding, two coolies, at 8 annas	1
Cutting and removing, four coolies, at 8 annas ...	2
Thrashing, two coolies, at 8 annas	1
Land rent	2
Contingencies and seeds, etc.	1
Total ...	12

Outturn.

Unhusked rice, 8 maunds, at Rs. 2	16
Straw, 16 maunds, at 8 annas	8
Total ...	24

Taking 1,500 bighas as the culturable land in a square mile, the total area benefited=30 × 1,500=45,000 bighas, and, with an average net profit of Rs. 12 per bigha, the total value of crop saved per year would be Rs. 5,40,000. Of the area under indifferent crop (shown in burnt sienna on the map), and assuming that one-third crop is now produced, the annual net profit may be assumed at Rs. 8. The area is equal to 28·5 × 1,500=42,750 bighas, so that the annual net value will be Rs. 3,42,000. Of the area under *boro* rice, no great benefit will be derived, as the value of the outturn of the *boro* rice is very nearly equal to that of the *kharif* rice.

10. The following may, therefore, be taken as the maximum annual value of benefit which the inundated area will derive from the construction of the Barakur reservoir :—

	Rs.
Waste area	5,40,000
Indifferent crop	3,42,000
Total ...	8,82,000

Since writing my report, I have again discussed with Mr. White the question of possible benefit which the area within the Chetua circuit would derive from the Barakur reservoir :—

	Square miles.	
In 1898 ...	37	Produced no crop. These floods were abnormal, and are not likely to occur again for years to come.
„ 1900 ...	46	
„ 1901 ...	8	

The mean area is 30 square miles, which is equal to 15,000 acres =45,000 bighas, so that the value of possible benefit, at Rs. 12, would amount to Rs. 5,40,000. In previous years the circuit was inundated about once in ten years, and there is no doubt that this will be the experience of years to come. The maximum amount of annual benefit may therefore be estimated at one-third of Rs. 5,40,000=Rs. 1,80,000.

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Of the land outside the circuit, an area of 20 square miles would probably benefit to the extent of Rs. 10 an acre=Rs. 1,00,000—

			Rs.
Value of crops (Chetua area)	...	...	2,80,000
Ditto (Damodar area)	...	...	8,82,000
Total		...	11,62,000

This is a very outside estimate. In my opinion the probable gain to the raiyats in a year should not be taken at more than 7 lakhs of rupees.

11. The Revenue Secretary, who was consulted as to the financial aspect of the above estimate, recorded the following opinion :—

The cost of the reservoir is estimated at 40 lakhs, with annual interest and maintenance charges amounting to 1½ to 2 lakhs. Two lakhs is the safer figure. A financial expert is wanted to capitalise such a scheme. Something would depend on the period within which the scheme may be completed, the rate of interest charged, the period for which interest may run before an apportionment scheme is worked out, and something would depend on the annual maintenance charges as distinguished from interest. As far as I can gather, however, allowing for interest and maintenance, the capitalised sum would not be less than 60 lakhs, and might be much more.

Supposing that this sum of 60 lakhs be apportioned against the 54,250 acres reclaimed and benefited, we get an average apportionment of Rs 110 an acre, which is about three times the average rate apportioned in the Rajapur scheme (our biggest drainage scheme). The reclaimed lands would have to pay much more than Rs. 110 an acre and the benefited lands less.

Such a high rate of cost seems to take the scheme out of the region of practical politics. A glance at Mr. Horn's map will show that the areas to be reclaimed and benefited, though to some extent compact, yet extend over many villages. The taking of levels and the apportionment of cost would be an additional item of cost, which has not been taken into consideration above. Many questions would arise as to whether land really was benefited or not. I do not say that these questions would be insuperable. Like questions in other areas, they could be solved by Drainage Commissioners ; but if the scheme be left to be voted for by landholders in the area affected, all sorts of doubts would have to be satisfied. In theory, it is no doubt worth while to spend 60 lakhs, or Rs. 110 an acre, in order to save annually 7 lakhs, or, $\frac{\text{Rs. } 7,00,000}{54,250 \text{ acres}}$ = Rs. 13 an acre. If we would save Rs. 11,62,000 annually, or Rs. 21-8 an acre, the thing is more decidedly worth doing.

But supposing that Government be persuaded of the advantage of the scheme, we would have to persuade the "landholders" before a scheme could be carried out under the Bengal Drainage Act of 1880

12. After reviewing the whole history of the case, the Lieutenant-Governor recorded the following opinion :—

Mr. Macpherson shows that the 60 lakhs scheme would fall at Rs. 110 per acre, which is three times the rate apportioned under the Rajapur scheme As the recoveries in the Rajapur area have proved difficult enough, it must be conceded, with whatever regret, that the 60 lakhs scheme is impracticable.

13. In paragraph 59 of my report I suggested that should it be decided not to attempt the reservoir, it might be possible to help the inundated area by assisting the Begua to scour out its own channel. I am well aware of the difficulty of the problem and a solution at all feasible is only possible to be formulated by one, who has an intimate knowledge of the ground, assisted by the advice of intelligent villagers. Owing to the few days in the year during which the river is in flood, the progress of scouring is very slow. It has taken the Begua 40 years to form a channel for itself four to five miles long, and it would probably take the same time for the river to force its way down to the Chapadangah road some five or six miles further on.

To assist the river it would be necessary to excavate a channel 500 to 600 feet in width and 6 feet deep at a cost of Rs. 1,50,000 per mile, *i.e.*, say 9 lakhs of rupees. Beyond the road the uncultivated land begins, so that it would be necessary to extend the river for another eight to ten miles. To assist the river, even an expenditure of fully 20 lakhs of rupees would be required.

14. As the cost of this alternative scheme is estimated about one-third of the reservoir scheme, and would therefore just bring the apportionment within the Rajapur limit, I am directed by the Lieutenant-Governor to request that you will be good enough to examine this proposal more closely and favour Government with your opinion on the following points :—

(1) Have you any experiences to recommend it ?
(2) If the Begua channel were cut, would the river take it and keep it ?
(3) Would the cost of maintenance be high, and is the scheme such that it could be confidently undertaken ?

The Bengal Excise (Amendment) Bill.

[*Sir William Duke; Nawab Saiyid N. A. Chaudhuri; Babu S. N. Banerji.*]

LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS.

THE BENGAL EXCISE (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1914.

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 3.

The Hon'ble Sir William Duke moved that the Bengal Excise (Amendment) Bill, 1914, be referred to a Select Committee consisting of the Hon'ble Mr. Stephenson, the Hon'ble Mr. A. H. Cuming, the Hon'ble Mr. Moberly, the Hon'ble Dr. Deba Prasad Sarbadhikari, the Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur, the Hon'ble Maulvi Musharraf Hussain, the Hon'ble Babu Mahendra Nath Ray and the mover, with instructions to circulate their report in time for its consideration in Council at the meeting to be held in September next.

The motion was put and agreed to.

RESOLUTIONS.

(*Under the Rules for the discussion of matters of general public interest.*)

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 4.

The following Resolution stood in the name of the Hon'ble Nawab Saiyid Nawab Ali Chaudhuri, Khan Bahadur :—

> "This Council recommends to the Governor in Council that an expert Committee, consisting of officials and non-officials and presided over by the Director of Public Instruction, be appointed to formulate definite recommendations to Government for the furtherance and spread of Muhammadan Education in this Presidency, such Committee to be representative of Muhammadan interests throughout the Presidency and to be assisted by the Special Officer in charge of Muhammadan Education as Secretary."

The Hon'ble NAWAB SAIYID NAWAB ALI CHAUDHURI, Khan Bahadur, said :—

"My Lord, the last Gazette having announced the formation of the Committee to which my Resolution refers, I do not think there is any point in the Resolution which I wished to put forward for the consideration of this Council. It would be useless now to discuss the reasons which led me to press the necessity for the formation of this Committee, and my only regret now is that the Committee is to be a temporary one. I wish the Committee had been allowed to last for a longer period, in order effectually to place before the authorities the different problems relating to Muhammadan Education which may arise from time to time. As regards the constitution of the Committee, I am sorry to miss the names of a few who would have been very useful members of the Committee. The Muhammadan Educational Conference suggested some names, and I do not see why the unanimous suggestion of such a representative body should have practically been ignored. I sincerely hope and trust that some additional appointments will be made to the Committee in the light of the suggestions made by the Conference so that it may be made really useful and effective for the purposes for which it is going to be constituted.

With these few words, I beg to withdraw the Resolution standing in my name."

The Resolution was then, by leave of the President, withdrawn.

[*Babu S. N. Banerji.*]

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 5.

The Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Banerji moved the following Resolution :—

This Council recommends to the Governor in Council that Rule 7 of the Bengal Legislative (Financial Statement) Rules, 1912, be so amended as to confer on the Finance Committee (constituted every year under Rule 3 of the said Rules) the right of considering the provision to be made under the several heads of expenditure in the Draft Financial Statement, and not merely that under the head of "Unallotted Expenditure," and of making proposals in respect thereof for the consideration of the Local Government.

He said :—

Hon'ble Members will bear in mind that every year a Finance Committee is appointed to consider what is called the unallotted expenditure in the budget estimates. The unallotted expenditure in the budget estimates of 1913-14 was fixed at 14,50,000 rupees; the unallotted expenditure for 1914-15 was fixed at 14 lakhs, and the total budget estimates for 1914-15 was fixed at 7 crores and 36 lakhs of rupees. It will thus be seen that the unallotted expenditure is only a fraction—I was going to say an insignificant fraction—of the entire budget expenditure, and therefore the labours of the Finance Committee touch only a fringe of the very wide area covered by the budget expenditure. The object of my Resolution is to extend the scope of the work of the Finance Committee and to invest it with the power to consider all heads of budget expenditure. If my Resolution, which is really an amendment of the Rules, is accepted, it will be necessary to amend Rule 7 of the Rules relating to the presentation of the Financial Statement. Your Excellency has authority vested in you by the Rules to amend them subject to the sanction of the Government of India. As I propose that Rule 7 of these rules be amended, it is necessary that I should read that rule. Rule 7 is in these terms.—

> "The Finance Committee shall consider how the provision made under the head 'Unallotted Expenditure' referred to in clause (*d*) in sub-rule (2) shall be distributed among the specific major heads and to what purposes the sums thus allotted should be applied."

Rule 7 refers to clause (*d*) of sub-rule (2). Clause (*d*) says :—

"The Draft shall comprise tabular statements showing the amounts available for maximum recurring expenditure and for total expenditure upon other new schemes, the latter being provisionally included under a head 'Unallotted Expenditure.'"

Clause (*d*) refers to new schemes other than those mentioned in clause (*c*) It is therefore necessary to consider the terms of clause (*c*) of sub-rule (2). Clause (*c*) says :—

"The Draft shall comprise tabular statements showing the estimated Provincial expenditure under specific major heads, on existing establishments and schemes, and on new schemes the cost of which is not considerable or which the Local Government considers to be of an absolutely obligatory character."

It will thus be seen that the Finance Committee possesses only a very limited authority to consider new schemes of expenditure only of a particular class. New schemes of expenditure which the Government consider to be absolutely necessary or the cost of which is inconsiderable are withdrawn from the jurisdiction of the Finance Committee. Indeed from the figures which I gather from a note which has been kindly placed at my disposal by my Hon'ble friend the Financial Secretary, it appears that the work of the Finance Committee is confined to only a percentage of expenditure incurred upon new schemes. In 1913-14 the total expenditure upon new schemes amounted to 45 lakhs of rupees. The Finance Committee had to consider the "Unallotted Expenditure" of that year which only came up to fourteen lakhs and fifty thousand rupees—or in other words less than one-third of the total expenditure upon new schemes. In 1914-15 the total expenditure upon new schemes amounted to 35 lakhs of rupees. The Finance Committee dealt with only 14 lakhs of that expenditure—

or less than one-half. My Lord, there is no reason why the whole of the expenditure upon new schemes should not be submitted to the Finance Committee. I am encouraged to put forward this view by the fact that the Committee is a purely Advisory Body, that the authority of the Government is in no way fettered by its views and that the Government may accept them or reject them according to its discretion. Let me turn once again to the wording of Rule 7 which says that the Finance Committee is " to consider " and not decide how the provision for new schemes is to be distributed; and Rule 10 vests in the Government the power to decide what the provision is to be, subject to the final sanction of the Government of India. The wording of Rule 10 is as follows :—

" After considering the proposals of the Committee, the Local Government shall embody its own conclusions in the Draft Financial Statement and shall refer the Statement thus amended to the Government of India."

In view, my Lord, then of the fact that the Finance Committee is merely advisory in its functions, I submit that the Government will lose nothing, but is likely to obtain valuable assistance from the Finance Committee by submitting for its consideration not only new but all heads of the Budget Expenditure. The Budget Expenditure consists of three heads. There is expenditure that is fixed; secondly there is expenditure that is progressive and lastly we have expenditure upon new schemes. My Lord, there is nothing fixed, nothing unalterable, nothing in the nature of a settled fact in our administration, be it financial or otherwise. We are moving and everything is moving, though it may be with a slow movement, and even expenditure that is fixed or progressive may, with advantage, be laid before the Finance Committee; and I submit that there is absolutely no reason why the Committee should not be consulted with regard to all kinds of new schemes

There is another aspect of the question which should not be over-looked. I invite your Excellency's Government to consider the value of the training which members of this Council will receive from the discussion in Committee of the details of the Budget Expenditure. The wider the area of the discussion the more effective will be the training. Members of this Council who are also members of the Corporation, will, I am sure, testify to the enormous benefit they have derived from the detailed discussion of the Municipal Budgets in their committees. The adoption of the course which I have ventured to suggest will add to the efficiency of the Council, strengthen our financial administration by bringing it in close touch with public opinion and inspire a larger measure of public confidence. Therefore alike in the interests of this Council and for the greater efficiency of the administration I venture to recommend this Resolution to the acceptance of the Council and the Government."

The Hon'ble SIR WILLIAM DUKE said :—

" My Lord, I am afraid that I must tax the patience of the Council to listen to a rather lengthy exposition of the process of preparing the budget. It is by no means a simple one; and even although I have had a certain amount of practical experience in it, I do not find it particularly easy to explain. However, I will do my best to show what the system is with a view to assist the Council in considering the practicability of the Resolution which has been moved. I must say, at the outset, as the Hon'ble mover has pointed out, that the rule which he desires to alter is one which was enacted by His Excellency in Council with the sanction of the Governor General in Council, and we have to consider the matter from that point of view.

What this circumstance implies in practice is that the rules for all the Indian Local Governments are framed very much upon one plan and with due regard to the procedure of the Government of India in framing their own budget to which those of Local Governments are merely subsidiary. Any change, therefore, which may be proposed should be considered from the point of view of its being acceptable to the Government of India, such as they might sanction without undue dislocation of their budget arrangements. Now, as a matter of fact, the rules, which, as I have said, are more or less common to all the Local Governments, bring the Finance Committee in only at a rather

advanced stage, and if it were required to deal not merely with the unallotted expenditure, but with all the several heads of expenditure in the Draft Financial Statement, it would be necessary for it to come in very much earlier, and it is to be considered whether this is physically possible. According to the rules, the Finance Committee must be elected before the 5th of January and must meet not later than the 18th of January and submit its report to Government before the 27th of January. Now, the scheme under which the budget is prepared is as follows :—

The several Heads of Departments send in their budgets by October, one copy to the Accountant-General and the other copy to the Administrative Department of Government concerned. The schedules attached to the budget, showing the new expenditure required, are examined by the Administrative Department and, in consultation with the Financial Department, are classified into "Obligatory" and "Optional." "Obligatory" includes matters regarding which discussion seems unnecessary, because they are such as have been directed by the Secretary of State or the Government of India; or have been considered to be unavoidable by the Local Government. "Optional" are matters which it is open to the Local Government to undertake or let alone at its discretion. Meanwhile, the Accountant-General has been examining the budget and should return it to Government by the 15th of November. The Administrative Department scrutinizes the budget as passed by the Accountant-General and then passes it on to the Financial Department. Under the rules, the Financial Department should have finished by the first half of December; but as a matter of fact, the budgets are never up-to-date, and the Financial Department has to work at extreme pressure usually throughout the Christmas holidays, so that the first edition of the budget may be forwarded to the Government of India on the 1st of January.

Now, it will be apparent that, until all the budgets have been completed, it is impossible to say what the amount of unallotted expenditure can be. It is only known practically at the moment when the budget is due to the Government of India, and is subject to the approval of the Government of India. The Government of India, as a rule, return the budget within a fortnight, that is to say, a very few days before the 18th of January when the Finance Committee is due to meet and to make its recommendations.

I have so far described what is done according to rule. I would now draw the attention of Council to what the Local Government has, of its own motion, done in order to give the Finance Committee a more real influence upon the expenditure of Government. It was realized by the Financial Department very shortly after the present Council system came into operation that the Finance Committee was being given only very restricted opportunities, if some nine days before it had to report, it was furnished merely with the fact that so many lakhs of expenditure, usually very few, were unallotted and with a long list of schemes which Government desired to be taken up and was asked to make its recommendations upon this basis. Accordingly, since 1911, the Finance Committee, instead of being elected only at the last moment, has been elected during the rains session and has been convened in November as soon as the schedules attached to the departmental budgets showing the new expenditure which the departments wished to incur could be collected. It is true that at this stage it is impossible to tell what funds would be available for unallotted—that, as I have explained, is only known at the last moment when all the budgets have been completed, that is, about the 31st December. But, at any rate, this system gives the Finance Committee ample time to express their opinion as to the necessity or the relative urgency of the projects put forward by the departments or to propose others which they may prefer to them. It rests, of course, with Government to accept or reject these preliminary recommendations of the Finance Committee, and when they are convened for their formal meeting on the budget on the 18th January they see how far their advice has been followed; and if they are dissatisfied, they have a further opportunity of advising Government in their formal report, and, of course, if their views are still not accepted, of pressing them further in the later stages of the budget. It is true that the Government of India are averse to accepting minor changes made in the second and still more in the third editions, but if

[*Sir William Duke.*]

changes of real importance were recommended and especially if they were supported by the weight of the Legislative Council, it is probable that they would be accepted.

Now, I think I have shown that Government has of its own motion and before any private member had suggested it, done everything that it thought possible, to extend the influence of the Finance Committee. I trust that the Council will give us credit for this, at any rate, that our policy has not been to restrict and limit their influence upon the budget, but the contrary.

The Hon'ble Mover drew attention to the fact that the unallotted was but a small proportion of the total new expenditure. I do not know exactly how he has worked up these figures. However, I am quite prepared to accept the fact that the unallotted is only a small proportion of the new expenditure. I could not myself at this moment say accurately what the new expenditure consists of, but it is to be remembered that expenditure on new schemes has usually been considered for many years before it actually takes effect. In many cases, it has been submitted and approved by the Secretary of State some years before the scheme could be given effect to. We may take for instance the Police policy of recent years. I suppose it is nearly upwards of 10 years since the Police Commission completed its inquiries, and it is 7 or 8 years since the Secretary of State passed his orders on the recommendations of that Commission, and in passing his orders, he approved of schemes to be carried out as funds permitted. The total was already fixed at that stage. It was only a question of how funds would be available from year to year and as funds were made available portions of the scheme were given effect to. We have not thought it necessary and I do not think that the Hon'ble Mover has really adduced any reason why expenditure, which has been considered in this way by the Government and sanctioned by the Secretary of State and finally decided on, should again be submitted to the Finance Committee. He may desire this, but it seems to us to be a mere waste of time, as the final authority has been given and there is no reason to keep the schemes back.

So much with regard to that portion of the new expenditure which has been brought before the Finance Committee. The Hon'ble Mover, however, thinks, and it may be that others think with him, that it is not enough for the Finance Committee to deal with the new expenditure in the budget, but that it should scrutinise all the heads of expenditure. This, I fear, is not possible under any system which we can devise. I have described already how the departments in October send in their budgets to Government. It is obvious that nothing can be done without the departmental budgets, and if it be suggested that these might be prepared earlier the reply is that they already proceed upon only six months' actuals which is too little for accurate estimating, while the Financial Department when dealing with them is able to add the experience of a seventh month. Obviously, it is impossible to begin earlier, and the period from October to December is fully occupied by the departmental and financial scrutiny. All that can be done at this stage is to give the Finance Committee the earliest opportunity of considering the new schemes ; and that we have done already.

We have done something else which does not come to the particular notice of the Council but which has the effect of extending the influence of the Finance Committee. Before the formation of the present Council system when the Legislative Council had no hand in the preparation of the Budget, it was the practice of all departments to press at any time for any new schemes which they thought desirable and for which they thought funds might be forthcoming. It is obvious that if this were permitted under the existing system, much new expenditure might be sanctioned by Government during the course of the year without any reference to the Finance Committee at all. The Financial Department has taken up the standpoint that all expenditure on new schemes should, as far as possible, only be admitted when it has been placed in the schedules attached to the departmental budgets

[*Sir William Duke; Babu S. N. Banerji.*]

and accordingly has come under the scrutiny of the Finance Committee, and this principle has been more and more rigorously insisted upon as the departments have grown accustomed to the new system. If then all new schemes are submitted to the Finance Committee, the result must be that in the course of years a very great proportion of the expenditure of Government will have been undertaken in accordance with the views and the advice of the Finance Committee. More than this it is impossible to hope for. There is no time or opportunity for the Finance Committee to deal with the detailed heads. The more members understand the process the more they will realize that 95 per cent. of the ordinary expenditure of the Province is unalterable and unavoidable, while the direction which the development is to take depends upon the destination of the remaining 5 per cent. Further, if it were urged that the Finance Committee might recommend the curtailment of existing expenditure and its diversion to other directions, my reply is that it is altogether unlikely that the Government would take the very serious step of curtailing the operations of existing departments on the advice of the Finance Committee when dealing with the annual budget. If it is urged that it is not impossible that such advice might be warranted, my reply is that the Finance Committee is not the body nor its scrutiny of the budget the occasion for such recommendations. The several budget estimates for each year are available to the members of Council before three months of the year have passed. Bulky as they are, they can be studied and understood by the light of the estimates of preceding years and by the explanations which have been given in Council during the budget debates, and if, as a result of such study, any member comes to the conclusion that a particular department is overgrown or that certain forms of expenditure are unreasonable, his proper course is to bring the matter before the Council in the form of a resolution, and to try to obtain support for his views there.

I will give point to what I say by a concrete example. A not infrequent newspaper criticism on the education policy of the Government is that too much is spent on inspection and too little on the schools themselves. Now, suppose the Finance Committee were dealing with this head and took that view, what effect could it have on the budget? I hope it is understood that I am giving a purely theoretical example. I do not suppose for a moment that the Finance Committee would put forward such a view or that Government would accept it. But supposing these unlikely things happened the most that Government could do would be to desist from recruiting a few men at the very bottom of the scale. For the rest, clearly, they would have to carry on their establishment as it was. Now if, on the other hand, the matter were seriously proposed for the consideration of the Council by means of a resolution moved during the course of the year and the Council endorsed the view and Government accepted the recommendation, it would, of course, take effect in the budget in the long run, but only after much careful and detailed consideration as to the steps; for instance, in reducing establishment, it would have to be considered how far men could be pensioned off or given compensation, how retirement could be accelerated, how officers might be transferred from the inspecting to the professorial or teaching cadres and so on, and the results of the change of policy would appear not in one but gradually in many succeeding budgets.

I am sorry to have taken up so much of the time of the Council, but I have been doing my best to get members to see with me that it is not a question of the willingness of the Government to extend the influence of the Council upon its financial policy, but of the proper method of doing so, and I trust that the Hon'ble Mover will recognize that the particular proposal which he had made for the expansion of the functions of the Finance Committee is not really workable."

The Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Banerji said :—

"My Lord, I am sure, we are very much indebted to the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Finance Department for the very clear and lucid explanation

[*Babu S. N. Banerji; the President.*]

which he has given us as to the various stages through which the budget has to pass before it is finally accepted by the Government of Bengal and the Government of India. The first objection which the Hon'ble Member has urged to my proposal is that the Government of India may not accept it, and this Government is under an obligation to look at matters largely from the standpoint of the Government of India in view of the fact that it is a subordinate Government. I hope and trust that the day will soon come when, at any rate, in respect of fiscal matters, this Government will be an independent Government. Perhaps that may be a long time to come, but so far as the attitude of the Government of India is concerned, I do think that your Excellency's Government is bound to take note of it, but at the same time we on this side of the House are bound to press for your Excellency's consideration the views which we entertain and which, I believe, a large section of our fellow-countrymen entertain, in order that they may be brought to the notice of the Government of India and might lead to the conversion of that Government to our ideas. That is my reply to the first portion of the objection raised by the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Finance Department.

My Lord, it has been suggested that my proposition, if accepted, would lead to things that are absolutely impracticable. Of course, so far as that is concerned, I confess I am in a position of disadvantage. I am not aware of the workings of the department, and there may be serious difficulties. But what strikes me is this that if the budget is laid before the Finance Committee, say, in November, I believe that is the time when the budget is ready, and I believe only one meeting of the Finance Committee is held and if the Finance Committee are asked to submit their report, say, within a week or a fortnight, it does seem to me that it will be possible for the Finance Committee to discuss and deal with the various heads of the budget. The Government of Bengal is bound by the limitations of time fixed by the Government of India, but if the Government of Bengal were to impose a similar limitation of time upon the Finance Committee, I think the difficulty might be overcome. It strikes me that, if instead of one meeting, the Finance Committee were to meet from day to day, it would be possible for the Finance Committee to go through all the heads of the Budget and to submit their views upon them. If the Government are really sympathetic in their attitude, I do not realise why this could not be done. My Hon'ble friend has referred to certain new heads which have been already fixed after discussion; for a number of years the Secretary of State has passed his orders and the Government of India have given their sanction; and any discussion of the matter by the Finance Committee would be useless, perhaps so from a practical point of view. But, at the same time, as I said, looking at the matter from the point of view of training and the efficiency of the Council, I do not see what possible objection there could be to laying the views of the Secretary of State and the Government of India before the Finance Committee. The Finance Committee might note these views and might profit by them. There may be no alteration in the decision of the Government of India or of the Secretary of State; and we should look at the matter not only from the point of view of administrative efficiency, but also from the point of view of the training—the political training of the members of this Council. However, my Lord, I should be prepared to withdraw my resolution if the Hon'ble Member would give me an assurance that he would consider the propriety of allowing all new schemes to be considered by the Finance Committee. In view of such an assurance, I will not press my resolution."

The PRESIDENT :—"The resolution is withdrawn."

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI said :—

"I did not withdraw the resolution. If the Hon'ble Member will give me an assurance that he will consider my proposal of laying not all schemes before the Finance Committee but all new schemes, I will withdraw my resolution. I think the sympathetic attitude of the Hon'ble

[*Sir William Duke: Babu S. N. Banerji; Dr. D. P. Sarbadhikari.*]

Member encourages me in the hope that he will possibly give such an assurance."

The Hon'ble SIR WILLIAM DUKE said :—

"Sir, I have already explained the general attitude of Government in regard to the action of the Finance Committee that we try as much as possible to bring all new expenditure before the Finance Committee, but that it is not possible to give an absolute guarantee that we shall always bring all schemes before them. It does not rest with us."

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI said :—

"I would ask this only as regards the new schemes."

The Hon'ble SIR WILLIAM DUKE said :—

"We have not the degree of autonomy which would enable us to give any such assurance, apart altogether from the fact that we may, as a matter of urgent necessity, have to incur expenditure ourselves. I have already explained the general attitude of Government to put as much as possible before the Finance Committee, and that is the maximum degree of assurance we can give."

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI said :—

"My Lord, I take it that, so far as practicable, my Hon'ble friend will consult the Finance Committee in regard to new schemes, and bearing that in mind, I beg to withdraw my resolution."

The Resolution was then, by leave of the President, withdrawn.

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 6.

The following resolution stood in the name of the Hon'ble Dr. Deba Prasad Sarbadhikari :—

> This Council recommends to the Governor in Council that steps be taken, in consultation with the Bengal-Nagpur Railway Company, to cut a canal from Kana Darkessar to Sarda Khal at a suitable point with a view to—
>
> (*i*) minimising, if possible, the disastrous results of flooding in and about the Begua spill area, in the districts of Burdwan and Hooghly, and
>
> (*ii*) facilitating a straight run for the proposed Bistupur-Howrah Chord Line.

The Hon'ble DR. DEBA PRASAD SARBADHIKARI said :—

"My resolution covers a large ground and involves big issues. Since I sent in this Resolution, I have learnt from a letter received from the Secretary to the Council that the Department concerned is considering the matter and that it has not yet completed its investigation. A resolution like this cannot be properly considered by the Council without a thorough and complete investigation, and I expect better results from my resolution by enabling the Department to complete its investigation than by having a debate in Council. Therefore under rule 10 of the Rules of Business, I would ask your Excellency to be good enough to postpone the discussion of this resolution till the Department has completed its investigation and is ready with its facts."

With the permission of His Excellency the discussion of the Resolution was postponed till the September meeting of the Council.

[*Maharaja R. Sinha of Nashipur; Nawab Syed Shams-ul-Huda.*]

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 7.

The Hon'ble Maharaja Ranajit Sinha of Nashipur moved the following Resolution :—

This Council recommends to the Governor in Council that a Sanitary Committee consisting of officials and non-officials (with the District and Subdivisional Magistrate, respectively, as President of each Committee) be appointed in each district and subdivision of the Presidency with a view to assist the Sanitary Board in matters of sanitation.

He said :—

"My Lord, the question of sanitation has been discussed in this Council on several occasions in various forms and this subject is also engaging the constant attention of your Excellency's Government and so I do not think it is at all necessary to dwell on the subject at any great length. My object in moving this resolution is that there should be Sanitary Committees both at the head-quarters of the district and subdivisions to bring to the notice of the Sanitary Board and to the District Magistrate the various needs of their locality in regard to sanitation. There is a provision in the Local Self-Government Act under which such District Sanitary Committees may be appointed. But I am afraid the provisions of section 21 of the Act have not always been complied with. Over and above that, my prayer is that Committees be also appointed in subdivisions, and that such Committees should also consist of officials and non-officials, the President being the Subdivisional District Officer. There is no fear that these Committees will take up the time of the Government by unnecessary correspondence and frivolous reports. My object is simply that the non-officials should be placed in a better position to inform the Subdivisional Magistrates about the particular needs of particular localities. The Municipalities devote their time to various other works of improvement, but these Committees would have no other business but to look to the sanitation of towns and rural areas. I hope that your Excellency's Government and the Hon'ble Member in charge will not find it very difficult to accept my resolution."

The Hon'ble NAWAB SYED SHAMS-UL-HUDA said :—

"My Lord, I will only make a short statement. The Hon'ble Member has already referred to the provisions of the Local Self-Government Act. Section 91 of that Act says that every District Board shall appoint to be members of a Sanitation Committee not more than five members and not less than three. My Hon'ble friend was quite right when he said that in this respect the provisions of the Act have not always been complied with. As a matter of fact after receiving notice of this resolution we made inquiries from Commissioners of Divisions. We wanted to know how far the provisions of section 91 had been complied with. It has been ascertained that in the Presidency and Burdwan Divisions, Sanitation Committees have been appointed under the Act in all districts except Nadia. In the Dacca, Rajshahi and Chittagong Divisions to which the amending Act has been extended only this year less progress has naturally been made. In the Dacca Division every district except Dacca has a Sanitation Committee. In the Rajshahi Division the districts of Rajshahi and Rangpur have no such Committees. In Chittagong there is no Sanitation Committee.

It is reported that the Dinajpur District Board will take up the question as soon as it has been reconstituted and that all the other district boards in the Rajshahi Division propose to discuss the question at their next meeting. The information has just been received from Commissioners and steps will now be taken to have Committees appointed in accordance with the law in each district. So far as the requirements of the district are concerned, I believe that the appointment of a Sanitation Committee under the Local Self-Government Act will serve the same purpose as the Hon'ble Member has in view with this difference that while the Act

[*Nawab Syed Shams-ul-Huda : Maharaja R. Sinha of Nashipur ; Babu S. N. Banerji.*]

speaks of Sanitation Committees in districts only, the Hon'ble Member would have such committees in subdivisions also. As regards subdivisions, I don't think it would be possible to find qualified men to take up the work. Besides, under section 115 of the Local Self-Government Act, the responsibility is placed on Union Committees as regards sanitation within their own jurisdiction. Every Union Committee is subject to control by the District Board and is expected to look after the conservancy and sanitation of the local area. My hon'ble friend is well aware that it is now the policy of the Government to increase the number of Union Committees in this Presidency, and as soon as we have a large number of these Committees all over the Presidency, I believe, it will be more effective in improving sanitation in rural areas than Sanitation Committees in subdivisions. Besides that, every subdivision and every local Board is represented on the District Board, and there is no reason to believe that the Committees that will be appointed by District Boards under the Act will not adequately represent the local Boards. On all these grounds we have found ourselves unable to accept the resolution of my hon'ble friend in the precise form he has formulated it. But I may assure him that we are going to push the matter forward, and I hope that we shall soon be able to inform my hon'ble friend that in every district a Sanitation Committee has been established. I have shown how the provisions of the Local Self-Government Act have been applied in almost all the districts in Western Bengal; and so far as Eastern Bengal goes, I have already pointed out that the amending Act has only recently been extended to it and work is being pushed forward there. I think that my hon'ble friend is now in a position to judge whether he should press his resolution or withdraw it."

The Hon'ble MAHARAJA RANAJIT SINHA of Nashipur said :—

"My Lord, I am much indebted to the Hon'ble Member in charge for his very sympathetic reply and on the assurance that the work will be pushed forward and that he is giving the matter his full attention, I shall not press my resolution and beg to withdraw it."

The resolution was then, by leave of the President, withdrawn.

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM NO. 8.

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI moved that this Council recommends to the Governor in Council that a Committee, consisting of official and non-official Members of this Council, be appointed to consider the revision of the Settlement between this Government and the Government of India (which is to take effect from 1915), and to advise the Local Government thereupon.

He said:—

"My Lord, this is a resolution which, I may claim, is made in the interests of the Local Government, and I hope and trust that the Council and the Government will see their way to accept it. By accepting it, the Government will pledge themselves to no new policy, and to no new principle, but it simply invites a number of gentlemen, members of this Council, to form themselves into a Committee to advise the Government with regard to matters which vitally affect the financial well-being of this province for some years to come My Lord, finance is the touchstone of every administration. John Bright, in one of his great speeches, said—'tell me what the financial position of a country is, and I will tell you all about its Government and the condition of its people'. However progressive the policy of a Government may be, however beneficent its intentions, it is bound to be seriously handicapped if it is confronted with financial difficulties and embarrassments. The problem of efficiency in the last resort resolves itself into a problem of finance, and the

[*Babu S. N. Banerji.*]

Provincial Settlement which is about to be concluded with the Government of India will determine the financial position of this province for some time to come, and I hope that in this matter, your Excellency's Government will take the Council into their confidence and enlist on behalf of your Government, the moral support of this Council.

My Lord, these Provincial Settlements have in the past been the subject of very keen controversy and contention, not indeed between the Government and the people, but between Government and Government, between the Imperial and the Provincial Governments. We all remember the scathing denunciation passed by a great preconsul in this province, when he said that on the occasion of every quinquennial settlement, the provincial sheep was shorn of its wool and turned out to shiver in the cold. But this and other incidents of a similar character are now matters of ancient history. and they need not be recalled to mind except to mark the growth, the remarkable growth, of our system of Provincial Finance, which at every stage has provided ampler funds and has conferred ampler powers upon the Local Governments over Provincial funds. The quinquennial contracts have been done away with ; the Settlements are now permanent or quasi-permanent. The change was made in the time of Sir Edward Law who looked forward to the ultimate fiscal independence of the Provinces ; and a further development took place under the auspices of Sir Guy Fleetwood Wilson and Sir James Meston when the new Settlements were made in 1912. Owing to the modification of the Partition and the new territorial re-adjustment that was then made, a temporary Settlement was concluded with our Province which is now in force and which is to terminate on the 31st March next. Under the existing Settlement, apart from our wholly provincialized resources, there are four heads of revenue, divided in equal shares between the Imperial and the Local Governments. They are : (1) Land Revenue, (2) Stamps, (3) Assessed Taxes and (4) Irrigation. Now looking at the Budget for 1914-15, we find that the estimate of receipts for the year was fixed at 6 crores and 27 lakhs of rupees in round numbers, and the expenditure at 7 crores and 36 lakhs of rupees. In other words, but for the Imperial benefactions, there would be a deficit amounting to about 1 crore and 9 lakhs of rupees. This, my Lord, I submit, is an unsatisfactory state of things. Our Province ought to be self-contained, self-dependent, able to stand upon its own legs and pay its own way without extraneous assistance, even though it should come from a superior Government.

My Lord, my submission is that whatever settlement is arrived at, it should be a settlement that should secure this end and ensure the solvency of our Province independently of Imperial grants. These benefactions or doles as they are sometimes called have been described by the highest financial authority in this Province, Sir William Duke, as wasteful, demoralising and as preventing, by introducing an element of uncertainty into our finance, the development of a regular system of provincial finance. Every word of this statement, if analysed, will be found to be correct. The benefactions of the Imperial Government will depend upon the resources of the Imperial Government, and they must vary from year to year. They must further depend upon the willingness of the Imperial Government to help and the pressure of the Local Government, which must also vary. My Lord, a system of finance so largely dependent upon conditions so shifting as these must be pronounced to be unsafe, unsound and unsatisfactory.

My Lord, I therefore submit that the approaching Settlement should be so determined that we may be able to get on without the adventitious aid of Imperial benefactions. We shall be glad to have them when we can get them ; but we should be able to get on without them. One or two proposals may be submitted in this connection. As I have pointed out, our deficit (without of course the Imperial doles) would come up to about 1 crore and

[*Babu S. N. Banerji.*]

9 lakhs, taking the figures of 1914-15. Now the Imperial share of the land revenue comes up to 1 crore and 14 lakhs. If this were given up and the land revenue wholly provincialized, the deficit would be more than covered, and I may here add that Sir Charles Trevelyan, a high financial authority, in the evidence that he gave before a Select Committee of the House of Commons which sat between 1871-73, observed that the whole of the land revenue should be made over to the Provincial Governments. The land of the Province belongs to the Province; and the revenue should belong to the Province. I may say that there is observable a distinct trend of opinion —it may be a subconscious trend—in the Finance Department of the Government of India, in support of this view; and in Burma, $\frac{5}{8}$ths of the land revenue were made over to the Province by the Settlement of 1912. But my proposal in this connection is not wholly free from objection. Ours is a permanently-settled Province. The land revenue is not an expansive source of revenue; and in a few years' time, even if the whole of it were made over to the Province, it may not suffice to meet our growing wants. I therefore pass on to the consideration of another branch of our revenue, viz., Stamps. The Imperial share of the Stamp revenue is a 1 and 11 lakhs of rupees. This if made over to us would just cover our deficit and place us in possession of an expanding source of revenue to meet our growing requirements. In making these suggestions I am supported by the high authority of the Decentralization Commission which recommends that increasing shares of growing revenues should be made over to the Provinces They say at page 34 of their Report :—

'This increase of regular Provincial revenues should, in our opinion, be met by gradually provincializing heads of Revenue which are now divided and for which the Provincial Government must always be specially responsible such as Forests or Excise.

I derive further support from the policy of the Government of India itself. At every Settlement divided shares have been provincialized or larger shares of divided revenues have been made over to the Provinces. Forests and Excise used to be divided heads in Bengal. They are now wholly provincialized revenues.

These are the suggestions which have occurred to me. There are other suggestions which have no doubt occurred to other Hon'ble Members. The Government have probabaly considered the matter and have by this time formed some sort of an idea as to the recommendations which they will submit to the Government of India. These and other proposals would be usefully considered by a Committee if appointed. The Committee would be entirely advisory, and the Government would be under no obligation to accept its views. None the less there would be a distinct advantage in the mutual interchange of ideas, and Government may receive valuable aid. If the Government and the Committee are unanimous in all or at any rate in respect of many of the proposals to be laid before the Government of India, with what added weight of authority those recommendations would come before the Government of India! They would no longer be the proposals of the Local Government only, but those of the Local Government backed by the authority of a Committee of this Council, representing the voice of public opinion. It would be a pity and indeed a grave misfortune, if the Government were to throw away this instrument of power with which I invite the Government to arm themselves, not indeed with a view to fight the Government of India—I hope there will be no fighting at all—but to make an appeal to that Government for a Settlement which would mean the financial well-being of this Province for many years to come.

One word more and I am done. We have often talked about the necessity of co-operation between the Government and the people. My Lord, I think we have made it manifest that as your constitutional advisers we are anxious to co-operate with your Excellency's Government in all matters

[*Sir William Duke.*]

affecting the welfare of the Province and of the people. Here is a notable instance of our anxiety to co-operate with the Government in a matter of supreme importance to the Government. The acceptance of the Resolution will mean the readiness of the Government to avail themselves of all offers of co-operation when conceived in a moderate and reasonable spirit. Its rejection will create a painful impression in the public mind and will lend colour to the belief which is entertained in some quarters that we move our Resolutions here only to meet with a courteous but firm negative."

The Hon'ble SIR WILLIAM DUKE said :—

" My Lord, the Hon'ble Mover has no doubt taken the best road to make me consider his proposal with favour since he has done me the honour of quoting with approval my views on the way that provincial settlements should be framed and has besides given expression to general principles regarding them which I myself hold very strongly. That, however, is in regard to general principles rather than to the specific object of his motion which is to appoint a Committee to advise the Government upon the coming quasi-permanent settlement. However, while we are still upon the general lines, I will say again, though I object to doles as strongly as anybody as a regular system of financing Provincial Governments, that it is not reasonable to carry the objection further than the facts. I do not see any sign of our getting any further doles. We got large doles when the Government of India had a great deal of money, money which I think they did not expect, their receipts for several years were enormously in excess of the budget and they were in the delightful but unusual state of having unexpected money in hand and they gave us some of that money. I do not think that the same thing is likely to continue. Then, too, as I have pointed out on a previous occasion, it is hardly fair to say that if we had not had a crore or so of these doles we would have had a deficit of that amount. To take a hypothetical case, if my income were £ 3,000 a year and somebody left me a legacy of £ 1,000, and I spent £ 4,000 in that year, I think it is rather too much to say that I should have been in deficit by £ 1,000 but for the legacy. If we had not had that crore, we should not have gone in for a good deal of expenditure purely non-recurring expenditure on buildings, equipment, etc., relating to education and sanitation. As we have got the money, we are doing the best we can with it.

Passing from this to the particular object of the resolution, I admit at once that the arrangement of a permanent or quasi-permanent settlement of provincial income and expenditure is a matter of such importance to the welfare of the Province that it is perfectly natural that Members of the Legislative Council should take special interest in it and desire to express their views as to the direction in which expansion ought to take place and as to the provision which should be made for it. I do not think, however, that the Hon'ble Mover has a clear idea of the kind of negotiation which will take place or the matters to which it will be directed. It is probable, as I shall explain later, that these matters which he really considers of the greatest importance will only be dealt with in an altogether general way and that there will be no opportunity for pressing the particular claims or ideas which he considers of vital importance. Furthermore, and this is really the most important consideration, under our present constitution, governed as it is by regulations under the authority of the Indian Councils Act of 1909 (I mean the Act of Parliament), there seems to be no provision for the Legislative Council to come into the matter. Provincial settlements are arranged between the Executive Governments of India and of the Provinces concerned, and it is hardly open to one of the contracting parties, particularly to the subordinate party, to take the assistance of others in the transaction without the consent of the other party. In plain terms, the Government of India might very well object if they found they were dealing not with the

[*Sir William Duke.*]

Executive Government of Bengal, but partly with the Executive Government and partly with the Legislative Council which so far has no constitutional status in the matter, and since the Hon'ble Mover has access to the predominant partner, I think he might very well address himself to that partner rather than to us. This dry statement of the position may afford small consolation to persons who are really deeply interested in the results and who believe that, given the opportunity, they could exercise a beneficial influence upon the negotiations. But, as I said at the commencement, I doubt if it is realised what these really amount to. In the first place, in the whole of India, there are only three provinces which have not yet got a quasi-permanent settlement and all the others have obtained their settlements more or less recently. It is, therefore, extremely unlikely that the Government of India will permit our settlement to deviate in any important matter of principle from those which they have recently concluded. Now, as I understand, the principles on which a settlement is made are that an estimate is made first of the normal expenditure of the Province under every head, then certain sources of revenue or proportions thereof so calculated as to approximate to the total normal expenditure of the Province are handed over to it. There are two stages then: the first is the careful examination of normal expenditure. This is a very laborious and very technical business; it has been in process since March and will not be finished before the end of this month at the earliest. It is not a matter in which any committee can be of assistance, as the whole question is one of the examination of past actuals and of the elimination of all abnormal expenditure The next stage is to get the Government of India to accept our views as to the normal expenditure. There may be some items which we should wish to include, but which the Government of India might not be prepared to accept.

Such might be proposals which have not yet been sanctioned by the Secretary of State or proposals which the Local Government wish to sanction and are technically competent to sanction, but which the Government of India might think could better be postponed. These matters, too, are technical and will be settled on technical grounds. Once the normal figure for expenditure has been ascertained, the question arises—How that amount of money is to be given to us, and this is the real crux of the settlement. It is of course of the greatest importance to the Province that heads of revenue made over to the province should be of as expansive a character as possible. I have no doubt that this is the point at which the Hon'ble Mover thinks that a committee would be of assistance to this Government. A committee might urge, for instance, that while expenditure on education had been expanding in a certain ratio during the last 10 years, it ought to expand at double or treble that ratio in the next ten. It might take a similar line, say, about sanitation. It might press for particular schemes and point, for instance, to the huge expenditure which is wanted to complete the various developments required at the Medical College Group of Hospitals, or it might urge the provision of funds for opening up new districts or new subdivisions where they are wanted, or for providing the cost of the separation of judicial and executive functions. If there were any hope that the Government of India would be prepared to go into the details of such schemes and to make provision for them, it might be reasonable that a committee should give advice as to the extent to which they ought to be pushed. There is, however, no such expectation. The Government of India will take the normal expenditure. They will give us at the moment such margin over the normal as they think they can afford. It is an important matter for us, but it is not to be expected that the margin will be anything very magnificent, and they will give us such an amount of expanding income from such heads as they think that we require and they can afford, and they will form their estimate of our requirements, not by totalling the various items which we think we want, but rather by comparing our

general development and rate of progress with that of other parts of India and by dealing with us on wide lines, according as they may think that upon the whole we are entitled to more liberal treatment than, say, Bombay or less liberal treatment than, say, Burma. As a matter of fact unless there is to be an entire revolution in the principles of provincial settlements the only two main heads from which we can hope to receive a much larger proportion with any advantage to ourselves are stamps and assessed taxes. We can state our case for this without the help of a committee. To be very much better off we should either have to be given the power of local taxation or a share of Imperial heads like Customs and Railways, which it is quite useless to talk about in this Council. The Hon'ble Mover may be dissatisfied, but if he really looks forward to fiscal independence he ought to think it more satisfactory to have a moderate but growing income which we can do the best we can with than to go to the Government of India with a list of local wants and ask for specific sums to meet them. All his arguments against doles tell equally against such a course. I think then that it will be realised that on the present lines of working there is no room for a committee just as on the constitutional side it can at present have no status."

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI said :—

"My Lord, I venture respectfully to join issue with my Hon'ble friend as regards the constitutional issue raised by him. The budget is a matter which, under the constitution, is open to our discussion; and therefore the provincial settlement, which is a part of the budget, is a matter which comes legitimately under the scope of our discussion, and any resolution appertaining to the budget or to the provincial settlement does, I venture respectfully to submit, come legitimately within the functions and cognisance of this Council. I think therefore that, so far as the constitutional aspect of the question is concerned, I must take leave to differ from my Hon'ble friend and to submit that the weight of argument is entirely on my side. My friend's speech has been very sympathetic. I am very grateful to him for it, and I am sure the country will be very grateful for it, but we want results, and there is just a possibility that the Government of India will prove obdurate, and that, unless extra pressure were brought to bear upon them, they will not be prepared to yield. My Lord, ours is a special province, and I feel a sort of patriotic pride in saying that the province of Bengal is the premier province in India, and as such we may claim a treatment at least on a footing of equality with other provinces, or perhaps a treatment somewhat better than the other provinces, and I do not think your Excellency's Government—I was going to use rather strong language—will not have done its duty if it does not press with sufficient insistence the position which this Presidency occupies among the provinces of India. I feel that the unaided efforts of the Local Government will not avail and that the views of the Local Government backed by the authority of the Council may prevail with the Government of India, and we wanted to place at your Excellency's disposal the services of a committee which, while supporting your recommendations, would make these recommendations irresistible so far as the Government of India was concerned. My Hon'ble friend the Member in Charge has observed that we are likely to get a growing share of some of our revenues, and he has mentioned assessed taxes and stamps. Stamps is one of those sources of revenue to which I refer, and assessed taxes are certainly a source of revenue in respect of which we ought to get an increased share. My Lord, it is not enough that the Local Government should press forward their recommendations, but the Local Government should have behind it the authority of this Council, the authority of the constitutional advisers of the Government of Bengal, when it places its proposals before the Government of India. I think the Government is throwing away a golden opportunity, and I only wish your Excellency could see your way to accept

this resolution, and if it is not accepted I feel that I must press the matter to a division."

A division was then taken with the following result :—

Ayes—19.

Babu S. N. Ray.
Dr. Nilratan Sarkar.
Raja Hrishikesh Laha.
Mr. G H. C. Ariff.
Maulvi Mazharul Anwar Chaudhuri.
,, A. K. Faz-ul-Haq.
Babu S. N. Banerji.
,, M. N. Ray.
Rai Hari Mohan Chandra Bahadur.
Chaudhuri Muhammad Ismail Khan.
Rai Nalinaksha Basu Bahadur.
Dr. D. P. Sarbadhikari.
Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur.
Babu Upendra Lal Ray.
Raja Shoshi Kanta Acharyya Chaudhuri Bahadur.
,, Mahendra Ranjan Ray Chaudhuri.
Nawab Saiyid Nawab Ali Chaudhuri.
Maharaja Ranajit Sinha of Nashipur.
Sir Bijay Chand Mahtab Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan.

Noes—23.

Sir F. W. Duke.
Nawab Syed Shams-ul-Huda.
Mr. N. D. Beatson Bell.
,, J. G. Cumming.
,, J. H. Kerr.
,, H. L. Stephenson.
,, H. F. Samman.
,, H. H. Green.
Lt. Col. A. C. Joly de Lotbinière.
Mr. A. H. Cuming.
,, C. J. Stevenson-Moore.
,, H. J. Hilary.
Rai P. N. Mukherji Bahadur.
Mr. C. F. Payne.
,, C. H. Bompas.
,, B. C. Mitra.
,, W. W. Hornell.
,, F. J. Monahan.
,, A. N. Moberly.
,, W. T. Grice.
,, G. A. Bayley.
,, R. Glen.
,, F. H. Stewart.

The following members abstained from voting :—
Nawab Saiyid Hossam Haider Chaudhuri Khan Bahadur.
Maulvi Musharraf Hussain.
The following members were absent :—
Babu Prasanna Kumar Ray.
Mr. S. P. Sinha.
Maharaja Jagadindra Nath Ray.
Mr Byomkes Chakravarti.
,, J. G. Apcar.
Nawab Sir Khwaja Sir Salimullah Bahadur of Dacca.
Mr. A. W. C. Chaplin.
,, Norman McLeod.

The result of the division being noes 23, ayes 19, the motion was lost.

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 9.

The following resolution stood in the name of the Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Faz-ul-Haq :—

> This Council recommends to the Governor in Council that, on the occurrence of the next vacancy in the listed posts open to members of the Provincial Executive Service, the appointment be allotted to a Muhammadan.

The Hon'ble MAULVI FAZ-UL-HAQ said :—

"MY Lord, since I gave notice of this resolution, I have considered the matter, and I am afraid there might be some misapprehension as regards the issue raised by this resolution. It may lead to controversy, and such discussion cannot prove to be of any good either to the officers themselves or to the Muhammadan community. What I would say is this : that I never desired that any and every Muhammadan should be appointed in the next vacancy whether he is efficient or not. We should insist that every public servant in this country must be efficient, and admission of inefficient officers to posts of trust and responsibility must ultimately be regarded as nothing short of a public calamity. But as no Muhammadan has been appointed to the post referred to in my resolution, since the reconstitution of Bengal, I thought that there might be some very strong reasons for not appointing Muhammadans ; for I could not believe that efficient Muhammadans could not be found for the post. But I now leave it to the justice of your Excellency's Government to deal with the matter with the hope that. when suitable Muhammadans are found, they would be given a

chance. My Lord, so many resolutions have been moved and withdrawn to-day that I feel hesitation in asking your Excellency to give me permission to withdraw mine.

"The resolution was then, by leave of the President, withdrawn."

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEMS Nos. 10 AND 11.

Under rule 10 of the Bengal Legislative Rules, 1912, the two resolutions below, standing in the name of the Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Ray, were postponed for discussion to the September meeting of the Council :—

10. This Council recommends to the Governor in Council that a City Civil Court, separate from the Calcutta High Court, be established in Calcutta for the trial of suits valued at Rs. 10,000 or under, or of such other valuation as the Government may think proper which may be instituted within the original jurisdiction of the said High Court, and that Government be pleased to take the necessary steps for its establishment.

11. This Council recommends to the Governor in Council that a Board of Education (to consist of official and non-official members) be formed for the purpose of the administration of primary and secondary education in this Presidency.

ADJOURNMENT.

His Excellency the President said :—

"Now, gentlemen, our business is now ended, and it will be my duty in a few minutes to declare this Council adjourned. But, before doing so, I should like to say a very few words. As you know, a desire has been expressed by many people in certain parts of Eastern Bengal that this Council should occasionally meet in Dacca. This desire is shared by some of you. It is quite a natural desire, and when we think of recent history, we cannot wonder that those who hold it strongly urge us that we should act on it. I am well aware that the majority of non-official members of my Council do not wish to meet in Dacca, and I know that from the official point of view there are strong reasons against our meeting there. But I have always wished, if I could, to do something to meet the natural, and, in some ways, laudable feeling of local patriotism which inspires those immediately connected with my second capital, and I am glad to have found in conversation with many of you that you are not averse to making some self-sacrifice if by doing so you can help to cement the friendly feeling that links Calcutta and Dacca. I have determined to summon a meeting of this Council in Dacca while my Government has its headquarters there during the rains this year. I must say, however, that I intend this meeting to be looked on as of the nature of an experiment. I do not intend now to express any opinion that the same meeting ought to be held every year; though, no doubt, the success or otherwise of this meeting will be taken into consideration in making arrangements in future years. I would wish to make it clear that I do not propose to allow matters of a really controversial nature to be taken up at the Dacca meeting. In view of the opinion which has been strongly expressed to me as to the difficulty which many members have in going to Dacca, I feel that it would not be fair to allow contentious business to be brought forward there. I know that those of my counsellors who wish to be in Dacca will thoroughly understand this. I promise you therefore in behalf of the Government that we shall bring forward nothing at Dacca which might prove likely to meet with opposition from our non-official colleagues. I feel certain that I can claim from my non-official

[*The President.*]

colleagues that they will also act in the same spirit. Government will not bring any pressure to bear on any members of this Council to make them come to Dacca if they do not wish to do so; but we shall do as well as we can to make arrangements for those who do come. I know from experience how much the people of Dacca have helped me to enjoy my stay there, and I believe that they will do their best for you, and that such of you as do go there will receive a very favourable impression as to the second capital of Bengal. I must say further, however, that I do not think it will be possible to do without a meeting in Calcutta very soon after the Government returns from Dacca. I foresee that there will be matters (which seem to Government important) in dealing with which I shall want to have your assistance before long, and I anticipate that Government will be prepared to put these matters before you early in September. I now declare the Council adjourned until Wednesday, the 5th of August, at 11 A.M., when I look forward to meet many of you in the Durbar Hall at Dacca."

A. W. WATSON,
Secy. to the Bengal Legislative Council

CALCUTTA,
The 15th July, 1914.

Abstract of the Proceedings of the Bengal Legislative Council, assembled under the provisions of the Indian Councils Acts, 1861, 1892 and 1909, and the Government of India Act, 1912.

THE Council met in the Durbar Hall in New Government House at Dacca on Wednesday, the 5th August, 1914, at 11 A.M.

Present :

The Hon'ble SIR FREDERICK WILLIAM DUKE, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., *Vice-President, presiding.*

The Hon'ble NAWAB SYED SHAMS-UL-HUDA.

The Hon'ble MR. N. D. BEATSON BELL, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. J. H. KERR, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. H. F. SAMMAN.

The Hon'ble MR. H. H. GREEN.

The Hon'ble MR. W. W. HORNELL.

The Hon'ble RAI PRIYA NATH MUKHARJI BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble MR. A. N. MOBERLY.

The Hon'ble DR. DEBA PRASAD SARBADHIKARI, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble MR. G. A. BAYLEY.

The Hon'ble MAULVI MAZHARUL ANWAR CHAUDHURI.

The Hon'ble MAULVI MUSHARRAF HUSAIN.

The Hon'ble MAULVI A. K. FAZ-UL-HAQ.

The Hon'ble NAWAB SAIYID HOSSAM HAIDER CHAUDHURI, KHAN BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble NAWAB SAIYID, NAWAB ALI CHAUDHURI, KHAN BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble CHAUDHURI MUHAMMAD ISMAIL KHAN.

The Hon'ble BABU UPENDRA LAL RAY.

DEATH OF LADY HARDINGE.

THE VICE-PRESIDENT said :—

"I desire to suspend the rules of business in order to move a resolution. It runs as follows :—

> 'This Council desires to place on record its profound sorrow at the lamented death of Lady Hardinge and to convey to His Excellency the Viceroy its deep sympathy in his bereavement.'

Gentlemen, no one can regret more than I do that His Excellency Lord Carmichael, who had intended to propose this resolution, has been called away by affairs of the most urgent importance, or can doubt that he would have done it in terms more appropriate and adequate than I can command, though they could not be prompted by greater sincerity of feeling.

Our sorrow is profound and we know that it is shared by the multitudes who in some way or other had some knowledge of Lady Hardinge. Few words will serve me where everything added only recalls more vividly the sorrow we all feel. In the first two years she spent in India, the gracious personality of Lady Hardinge had already secured the respect and admiration of all who came within the influence of the many and varied activities in which she took part with such genuine and sympathetic interest. But the quality which spread her name most widely and made it a household word throughout India and far beyond was the steadfast and quiet courage which she displayed in the day of her husband's peril. There is no quality that is more universally admired than courage and it has fallen to woman to display it in some of its finest forms. It never seems loftier than when inspired by wifely devotion, and of this kind of courage Lady Hardinge gave a shining example which will endure in history. Our sympathy with the Viceroy is very real; it is the truer and deeper because we have been able to form some conception of his loss."

The Hon'ble NAWAB SAIYID NAWAB ALI CHAUDHURI said :—

"Sir, the death of Lady Hardinge has come to us in the shape of a national calamity. Within the short time she had been in India, she won the affections and the esteem of the people and she has passed away in the midst of universal sorrow. I do not wish to speak further on this topic but would associate myself on behalf of my community with all that has fallen from the chair."

The Hon'ble MAULVI A. K. FAZ-UL-HAQ said :—

"After what has been said, it might be deemed a superfluity to make any further reference to this mournful subject, but I cannot let this occasion pass without adding one more tribute, of however humble a significance, from myself and my community, to the memory of Lady Hardinge. Of the many and distinguished vicereines who have left their mark on Indian history, it seems to me that Lady Hardinge will occupy a most conspicuous place by reason of the noble qualities, if I may say so, of the highest type of womanhood. Great men and women come and go and leave their impress on time, not so much by reason of the positions that they occupy or the success they attain in life, but by the deeds they accomplish by their force of character or their moral worth. You have referred, Sir, to the fortitude and courage that Lady Hardinge displayed on that regrettable occasion which we Indians would very much wish to forget, but we remember that that regrettable occasion is also associated with the display of that courage and fortitude which rendered Lady Hardinge's name a household word in India. I do not wish to say anything further on

the subject, because I feel that to pursue the subject further would be to add inefficiently to what has been so nobly and eloquently expressed by you, Sir, from the chair; but on behalf of my community, and if I may be permitted to say so, on behalf of the non-official members of the Council, we wish to associate ourselves with what has been said, and beg to convey to His Excellency our sincere sympathy with him in his great grief."

The Hon'ble Dr. DEBA PRASAD SARBADHIKARI said:—

"On behalf of my Hindu friends in Calcutta, the paucity of whose attendance here I regret, I desire to associate myself with the resolution and the terms of it as put from the chair. You have referred, Sir, to the great courage that Lady Hardinge displayed on that momentous occasion; I should like to remind this Council of what this country remembers with gratitude, that she turned that occasion into one of great good, and laid the foundations of a great work, the result of which I am sure so far as the Indian community is concerned, will be far reaching to the motherhood of India and the child-world of India, which she succeeded in reaching in almost an unprecedented way. Lady Hardinge contributed to the political and social forces for the betterment of India, the equal of which it would be difficult to conceive. The founder of the Linen League, and the Children's Day—she will always be remembered in India, even as Lady Canning's name is known as a household word in Bengal."

The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR said:—

"On behalf of the people in Calcutta, especially the Indian section of which I have the honour to represent in this Council, I desire to associate myself with the resolution which you have moved. Sir, perhaps it is superfluous on my part to dilate more on this mournful topic, but I may say this that, throughout the length and breadth of the country, in the heart of every Indian, there is genuine sympathy and regret at the great loss which not only the Viceroy but the country has sustained by the death of Lady Hardinge. Sir, what endeared her most to my countrymen was this—her true and genuine sympathy with the womenfolk of our community and with the little children. Sir, Orientals as we are, we reciprocate sympathy and love coming from whatever quarter, high or low, rich or poor and so long as there are noble Englishwomen of the stamp of Lady Hardinge, I am sure the bond of sympathy which binds the two great communities will never relax."

The Hon'ble BABU UPENDRA LAL RAY said:—

"It is with a deep sense of sympathy that I refer to the recent sad bereavement which our popular Viceroy has sustained. The sudden and untimely death of Lady Hardinge has been a severe shock to her beloved consort with whom she always identified herself in his arduous career. To the people of India, specially to the women of India, it has been a great loss. We are all aware of her noble virtues, and they need no elucidation. Her tender feminine virtues displayed in her numerous acts of charity and philanthropy, coupled with her noble bearing during those dark days at Delhi, won for her the hearts of the people of India. The Linen League, the scheme for a Civil Hospital for women in India, the Medical College for women at Delhi, and the children's annual treat are all monuments of the loving interest she took in the welfare of the people of this country. If sympathy can assuage to any degree the intensity of grief, our Viceroy has it from all India. All India is mourning with him. May His Excellency be comforted and may he be preserved for the good of India and the British Empire. With these words I, on behalf of the inhabitants of Chittagong, desire to associate myself with this resolution."

The Resolution was then put to the meeting and unanimously agreed to, all standing.

[*Rai N. Basu Bahadur; Mr. Samman; Lt.-Col. Joly De Lotbinière.*]

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 1.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

By the Hon'ble RAI NALINAKSHA BASU BAHADUR :—

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* 1. (*a*) Have the Government, since the last notification on the subject, arrived at a final decision as to the place where the proposed Mining Institution is to be established?

(*b*) Are the Government aware that there is a strong rumour that the institution is going to be located at Dhanbaid?

(*c*) Will the Government be pleased to state for the information of the public whether there is any foundation for this rumour and, if so, give reasons as to why the claims of Dhanbaid have been found to be superior to those of Asansol?

The Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN replied :—

(*a*) "The answer is in the negative.

(*b*) The answer is in the affirmative.

(*c*) The Committee appointed to consider the question of the establishment of a Mining School have recommended the selection of a site near Dhanbaid. This recommendation has been made after careful inspection of all possible sites near Dhanbaid and Asansol, and the site in question has been recommended by the Committee on account of its central position and proximity to a railway station. It is also near the offices and residences of the staff of the Department of Mines and is extensive enough to admit the location in one place of the whole institution, including playing-fields."

By the Hon'ble RAI NALINAKSHA BASU BAHADUR :—

the Em-

* 2. (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether the breaches in the Damodar embankment caused by the great flood of August last have been repaired and whether the embankment has been sufficiently strengthened to protect the town of Burdwan and the country on the west side of the river from future floods?

(*b*) Has it been brought to the notice of the Government that owing to the heavy rains in May last a part of the town of Burdwan was under water?

(*c*) Was this due to the escape of Damodar water (through the embankment) into the Banka and to the consequent inundation of the latter?

The Hon'ble LT.-COL. JOLY DE LOTBINIÈRE replied :—

(*a*) "The breaches in the Damodar left embankment caused by the great flood of August, 1913, have all been repaired, excepting that at Dhapdhara below Jamalpur which will not be finished for two months on account of shortness of labour. An advanced line of embankment, however, which was completed some months ago, protects the breach. Where considered necessary, a second line of defence in the form of an advanced or retired line of embankment has been made.

(*b*) and (*c*) In May last, owing to local heavy rain, the Banka was in flood which was to some extent augmented by water which entered from the Damodar, in which a freshet occurred, through the cut in the 14th mile of the left embankment, which had been made to supply water for sanitary purposes during the hot weather. Before the freshet arrived, the mouth of the cut was closed by a cross-dam which was breached. A little water is said to have entered the Burdwan town through the Guia Banka which did no damage at all. This is always liable to occur even during low flood in the Banka and the remedy lies with the Burdwan Municipality."

[*Rai N. Basu Bahadur; Mr. Green; Maulvi Musharraf Husain; Mr. Samman.*]

he Hon'ble RAI NALINAKSHA BASU BAHADUR :—

* 3. (*a*) Has it been brought to the notice of Government that the t Indian Railway authorities have again stopped the booking of goods by ls train from Howrah to Burdwan?

Stoppage of booking of goods by goods train from Howrah to Burdwan.

(*b*) Are the Government aware that this order, which was enforced on a vious occasion, interferes with the trade carried on by the people of dwan and its neighbourhood and is also the cause of great inconvenience he public in general?

(*c*) Are the Government taking any action with a view to remove the nvenience felt by the enforcement of this order?

The Hon'ble MR. GREEN replied :—

3 (*a*) "The matter has not previously been brought to the attention of ernment.

(*b*) The restrictions have been necessitated by the slow removal from the ls by the public. This has been caused by a shortage of carting facilities to have been due to the utilization of cart cattle for ploughing. As soon he merchants are in a position to remove their goods the sheds will be red and it will be possible to remove these restrictions.

(*c*) The attention of the Agent, East Indian Railway, has been drawn his and Government do not propose to take any further action, as it is ess to book goods to a station while these goods cannot be removed from station."

the Hon'ble MAULVI MUSHARRAF HUSAIN :—

*4. (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state how the work of Sani- Inspection is divided between Inspectors and Overseers in Municipali- whose income is less than Rs. 40,000 but more than Rs. 20,000 a year?

Division of work between inspectors and Overseers in certain Municipalities.

(*b*) What is the average cost of the works in each Municipality of the ve class, which each Municipal Overseer is called upon to supervise?

(*c*) What is the pay of these Overseers?

The Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN replied :—

"There is no recognised division of work between Sanitary Inspectors l Municipal Overseers. A statement is laid on the table showing the ies of Municipal Overseers in Municipalities whose income is less than 40,000 but more than Rs. 20,000. their pay and the average cost of the rks they are called on to supervise."

[*Mr. Samman.*]

tatement referred to in the Answer to Question No. 4 asked by the Hon'ble Mau Musharraf Husain showing the duties and pay of overseers in municipalities wl income is less than Rs. 40,000 but more than Rs. 20,000 a year; and the average ann cost of the works which each of these officers is called upon to supervise.

Name of Municipality whose income is less than Rs. 40,000 but more than Rs. 20,000 a year.	DUTIES ASSIGNED TO OVERSEERS.	Average cost of the works which each overseer is called upon to supervise annually.	Monthly pay of the overseer.
urdwan Division.		Rs.	
Raniganj ...	Supervision of all outdoor works, including conservancy, lighting, drainage and public works.	15,000	Rs. 30 *plus* Rs. cycle allowance
Uttarpara ...		3,500	Rs. 40.
Bhadreswar...		30,101	Rs. 35.*
Baidyabati ...		18,859	Rs. 30 *plus* Rs. cycle allowance.
esidency Division.			
Kamarhati ...	(1) Inspection of street-lighting ... (2) Collection of fees and keeping of necessary registers as regards tax on animals, tax on vehicles, cart-registration, license under section 261, markets and burning-ghâts. (3) Keeping charge of the stores and maintaining the "stock and store register". (4) Supervision of the work of the drainage and road-cleaning coolies. (5) Supervision of fodder supplied to the municipal cattle. (6) Supervision of works regarding road-repairing, construction and repairs of culverts. (7) Supervision of general cleanliness and sanitation of the town. (8) Watching over encroachments and obstruction to roads and drains. (9) Issuing notices under the conservancy sections of the Municipal Act.	6,000	Rs. 25 *plus* Rs. cycle allowance.
ygunj ...	(*i*) Supervision of— ... ... (1) Road maintenance. (2) The general work of road coolies. (3) The general work of drainage coolies. (4) The construction of culverts, etc., and laying down of pipes. (5) The work of *bhistees* and road watering carters.	25,000	Rs. 40 *plus* Rs. 2(travelling allowance.

[*Mr. Samman.*]

ie of Municipality whose income is than Rs. 40,000 but more than Rs. 20,000 a year.	Duties assigned to overseers.	Average cost of the works which each overseer is called upon to supervise annually.	Monthly pay of the overseer.
idency Divi-n—contd.		Rs.	
ygunj—*concld.*	(6) The work of sweepers and *domes*. (7) Feeding of bullocks by contract. (8) The work of lighting contractors. (9) The work of the water-supply *mistry* and repairs of pipes and stand-posts. (10) The work of *methers* and trenching work. (11) (*i*) The public latrines. (*ii*) Reading of water-supply meters. (*iii*) Inspection of— (1) slaughter-house; (2) vacant houses; (3) foul tanks, etc.; (*iv*) Preparation of estimates of works. (*v*) Assessment of new and improved holdings every quarter and licenses under sections 261 and 263 of the Bengal Municipal Act. (*vi*) Disinfection of houses. (*vii*) Survey. (*viii*) Conduction of prosecution of municipal cases in the criminal courts and supervision of cases in the civil courts.		
ia ...	(1) Supervision of the works of menial staff under the heads "Private privies and cess-pools", "Road-cleaning," "Public Latrine", "Public Works and Drainage". (2) Keeping an account of the municipal stores. (3) Issue of notices and preparation and conduction of municipal cases. (4) Preparation of bills for the wages of the menial staff. (5) Watching the construction of houses and privies and to report infringements of building and latrine regulations. (6) Inspection of the markets. (7) Inspection of street-lighting. (8) Inspection of drains and the trenching-ground. (9) To report and to file cases with regard to waste of filtered water.	8,000	Rs. 20.

ame of Municipality whose income is ess than Rs. 40,000 but more than Rs. 20,000 a year.	DUTIES ASSIGNED TO OVERSEERS.	Average cost of the cost which each overseer is called upon to supervise annually.	Monthly pay of the overseer.
esidency Division—contd.		Rs.	
ihati ...	(1) To take the muster of coolies and *methers* and to inspect their work on his rounds. (2) To inspect the trenching-ground. (3) To report on the condition of the roads and drains and any encroachment made on them. (4) To supervise the construction and repairs of roads. (5) To supervise cleansing of privies. (6) To serve notices and to prosecute cases under the Bengal Municipal Act. (7) To prepare the pay-bill of the staff under him. (8) To attend the jungle-clearing. (9) To collect cart-registration and license fees. (10) To attend to fumigation and disinfection. (11) To look after the general sanitation of the whole town.	2,500	One at Rs. 23 a another at Rs. 18.
rshidabad ...	(1) Collection of the taxes on animals, vehicles and professions and trades and cart-registration fees. (2) General control over the road-lighting, drainage and conservancy work. (3) General supervision over the public works and slaughter-house.	17,161	Rs. 40.
mganj ...	(1) Preparation of plans and estimates of works. (2) Supervision of roads, buildings, conservancy and drainage works, street-lighting, burning-ghâts, pounds, cattle and cart-registration. (3) Collection of the trade and hackney-carriage license-fees. (4) Enquiring into petitions under building regulations.	14,377	Rs 30.
ore ...	(1) To keep the register of coolies and to supervise their work. (2) To conduct municipal cases. (3) To issue notices. (4) To supervise the work of the conservancy department. (5) To keep stock and store registers and registers of works. (6) To supervise construction and repairs of roads, drains, culverts and bridges, etc. (7) To prepare bills of contractors and take measurement of their works.	6,000	Rs. 38.

...s of municipality whose income is ...than Rs. 40,000 but more than Rs. 20,000 a year.	DUTIES ASSIGNED TO OVERSEERS.	Average cost of the works which each overseer is called upon to supervise annually.	Monthly pay of the overseer.
...esidency Division—concld.		Rs.	
...lna ...	(1) To supervise the conservancy works and trenching-grounds, drains, privies, cess-pools, roads, waterworks, pounds, street-lighting, burial-grounds and burning-ghâts, the repair work of roads, drains, water reservoirs, water-pipes and filter-bed. (2) To make estimates and plans for repairs and original works. (3) To take levels and to survey when necessary. (4) To supervise the works of contractors. (5) To keep stock and store accounts. (6) Other work as required by the Chairman. (7) To report to the Chairman all cases of violation of municipal law. (8) To keep the muster-roll of daily coolies and to inspect their works.	7,000	Rs. 30 *plus* Rs. 10, horse or cycle allowance.
...acca Division.			
...idpur ...	(1) Inspection and supervision of works in connection with street-lighting. (2) Inspection and supervision of water-supply, viz., 2 water filters and 6 municipal reserve tanks and 8 reserved wells and other public watercourses. (3) Inspection and supervision of drainage. (4) Inspection and supervision of conservancy, public latrines, private privies and cess-pools, road-watering, road-clearing, trenching-ground and *gowkhana*. (5) Inspection and supervision of other sanitary requirements. (6) Inspection of markets and slaughter-houses, lodging-houses, hostels and stables. (7) Inspection of burning-ghât and burial-ground. (8) Works in connection with buildings and roads, viz., framing estimates, taking measurements and drawing work-bills, etc. (9) Works in arboriculture. (10) Inspection of erection of houses, buildings, huts and latrines.	20,000 And sometimes more when any special grant is received from Government for any special works	Rs. 35—2—45* (biennial).

Name of municipality whose income is less than Rs. 40,000 but more than Rs. 20,000 a year.	DUTIES ASSIGNED TO OVERSEERS.	Average cost of the works which each overseer is called upon to supervise annually.	Monthly pay of the overseer.
Dacca Division—concld.		Rs.	
Faridpur—*concld.*	(11) Inspection of encroachments. (12) Conducting prosecutions of municipal cases. (13) Works undertaken for private individuals.		
Chittagong Division.			
Comilla ...	(*a*) Public Works—To draw up plans and estimates of buildings, roads, culverts, bridges and other public works; to take measurement of works and prepare bills in respect of them. (*b*) Conservancy—To take attendance of *malis*, to inspect their work, to report obstructions to roads or drains and to take necessary steps for their remedy under orders of the authorities; to visit reserved tanks, markets, slaughter-houses, burning-ghâts, burial-grounds; to inspect hackney-carriages and street-lighting and report their condition; to draw up the remuneration bills of the *malis* and latrine *mehters*; generally also to enquire into the complaints of ratepayers regarding street-lighting, excavation, erection of new latrines, encroachments on roads, drains and other municipal properties; to look after the feeding of the bullocks for night-soil carts.	14,708	Rs. 45—3—60 *plu* Rs. 15 conveyanc allowance.
handpur ...	To supervise street-lighting, roads and bridges (including construction and repairs), the old bazar waterworks, Pasteur filter and the reserved tank.	16,000	Rs. 42.
Rajshahi Division.			
alpaiguri ...	Supervision of all municipal work including conservancy. Since the appointment of a Sanitary Inspector he has been placed in special charge of lights, roads and drains, but he also acts as assistant to the Sanitary Inspector in all matters concerning sanitation and conservancy.	4,543	Rs. 38. Rs. 5 a cycle allowance.

ame of municipality whose income is ss than Rs. 40 000 but more than Rs. 20,000 a year.	DUTIES ASSIGNED TO OVERSEERS.	Average cost of the works which each overseer is called upon to supervise annually.	Monthly pay of the overseer.
ishahi Division —contd.		Rs.	
ngpur ...	(1) To supervise the work of the municipal coolies.	10,917	Rs. 40.
	(2) To prepare estimates for repairing, constructing and supervising the construction of roads, buildings, drains, wells, etc., and to prepare bills of contractors.		
	(3) To supervise the work of the carpenters and blacksmiths in the workshop.		
	(4) To prepare maps and to survey municipal lands and lands acquired for the use of the municipality.		
	(5) To bring to the notice of the Chairman any encroachment on roads and drains and to prosecute the offenders.		
	(6) To keep a stock register of stores, tools and instruments, etc., and to preserve, purchase and expend articles kept in the godown.		
	(7) To inspect lamp-posts and lights.		
Bogra ...	Supervision of Public Works Department works and street-lighting and the keeping of accounts of the same. To seize carts for registration and to do any other work which he may be directed to do from time to time.	6,000	Rs. 30—2—40.
Pabna ...	Supervision of all outdoor works, especially sanitary, miscellaneous and roads.	14,000 to 15,000	Rs. 30. Rs. 5 allowance.
Serajganj ...	Supervision of street-lighting, conservancy arrangements, market, pounds, ferries, public garden and all kinds of public works with the aid of some assistance.	14,500	Rs. 30—1—40 *plus* Rs. 10, as horse allowance.

Name of municipality whose income is less than Rs. 40,000 but more than Rs. 20,000 a year.	DUTIES ASSIGNED TO OVERSEERS.	Average cost of the works which each overseer is called upon to supervise annually	Monthly pay of the overseer.
Rajshahi Division—concld.		Rs.	
English Bazar ...	(1) Construction and repairs of buildings, roads and lanes. (2) Construction and repairs of *kutcha* and *pucca* drains, public latrines, conservancy carts, etc. (3) Preparation of plans and estimates of all works done. (4) Supervision of all works executed. (5) To report encroachment on roads and drains, etc., by the public. (6) To report general cleanliness of the town and to supervise the work of the sanitary staff. (7) To enquire and report on all petitions for erection of houses, huts, latrines, private drains and settlement of municipal lands. (8) To seize unregistered carts. (9) To report against the breach of laws and by-laws. (10) To supervise collection and to collect, if necessary, municipal dues other than taxes. (11) To submit plans and estimates of lands acquired for municipal purposes. (12) To inspect street-lighting and market places. (13) To conduct municipal cases in the law courts.	10,000	Rs. 30.
Kurseong ...	Supervision of waterworks, conservancy and drainage with the assistance of a sub-overseer (pay Rs. 19). Inspection of meat and collection of taxes to a certain extent. Supervision of the execution of ordinary works which do not require any theoretical knowledge of engineering.	11,053	Rs. 215 (a retired non-commissioned officer).

[*Nawab Saiyid, Nawab Ali Chaudhuri; Mr. Stephenson; Babu Upendra Lal Ray; Mr. Cumming; Nawab Saiyid H. H. Chaudhuri.*]

By the Hon'ble NAWAB SAIYID NAWAB ALI CHAUDHURI, KHAN BAHADUR :—

Medical aid the Tangail s division of Mymensingh trict.

* 5. (*a*) Are the Government aware that, owing to the insufficiency of the rains, malaria, typhoid and other kindred diseases have been raging in various parts of the Tangail subdivision of the Mymensingh district?

(*b*) Are the Government also aware that the people of that district, especially the inhabitants of thanas Basail, Nagarpur, Mirzapur, and Gopalpur are in urgent need of proper medical assistance?

(*c*) In this connection, are the Government considering the advisability of asking the Chairman of the District Board of Mymensingh to depute a sufficient number of Sub-Assistant Surgeons with a stock of medicines to distribute medical aid in the localities specified?

(*d*) Are the Government also considering the advisability of establishing Medical Dispensaries in those localities for the benefit of the suffering inhabitants?

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON replied :—

(*a*) "Government are aware that fever has been more prevalent this year than usual in the Tangail Subdivision. The death-rate from fever in this Subdivision is, however, far below the average for the Presidency.

(*b*), (*c*) and (*d*) The answers are in the negative."

By the Hon'ble BABU UPENDRA LAL RAY :—

Increase in pay of the lov grade of munsi

* 6. (*a*) With reference to the Budget speech of the Hon'ble Sir William Duke on the 4th April, 1914, will the Government be pleased to state whether they have received any proposal from the High Court for increasing the pay of the lowest grade of Munsifs?

(*b*) If so, will the Government be pleased to state what steps they are taking in the matter?

The Hon'ble MR. J. G. CUMMING replied :—

(*a*) "The answer is in the affirmative.

(*b*) The proposal is under consideration."

By the Hon'ble BABU UPENDRA LAL RAY :—

Grant of privi leave to members of Provincial Jud Service.

* 7. Will the Government be pleased to state whether they are considering any proposal with regard to the granting of privilege leave on full pay to the members of the Judicial Branch of the Provincial Civil Service?

The Hon'ble MR. J. G. CUMMING replied :—

"The answer is in the affirmative."

By the Hon'ble NAWAB SAIYID HOSSAM HAIDER CHAUDHURI, KHAN BAHADUR :—

Touring by Subordinate E cational Inspect Staff.

* 8. (*a*) Is it not a fact that in Eastern Bengal districts the number of days prescribed for touring by the Subordinate Educational Inspecting Staff was considerably increased after the Partition?

(*b*) If so, will the Government be pleased to state whether they are considering the question of reducing the tours of these officers with a view to the establishment of a uniform practice throughout the Presidency?

[*Mr. Samman; Nawab Saiyid H. H. Chaudhuri.*]

The Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN replied :—

(*a*) "It is a fact that in Eastern Bengal districts the number of days escribed for touring by the Subordinate Educational Inspecting Staff was nsiderably increased after the Partition of 1905.

Before then the minimum prescribed for Deputy Inspectors and Sub-spectors in Bengal was 150 and 200 days respectively, whereas the responding figures in Assam were 240 and 260. The Eastern Bengal and sam Government at first adopted the Assam scale for the whole province, t subsequently reduced it to 180 days for Sadar Deputy Inspectors, 210 ys for other Deputy Inspectors, and 230 for Sub-Inspectors, with the ject of adopting a reasonable mean between the figures for Bengal and sam. In Western Bengal the original scale holds good.

(*b*) The question of introducing a uniform rate throughout the Presi-ncy is being considered by the Director of Public Instruction in connection th the general question of the co-ordination of the educational rules and lers in force in Eastern and Western Bengal districts."

the Hon'ble NAWAB SAIYID HOSSAM HAIDER CHAUDHURI, KHAN BAHADUR :—

*9. (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether there is any plus money belonging to the Hooghly Imambara Funds now in the hands Government?

(*b*) If so, will the Government be pleased to state whether they are sidering the question of utilising that surplus by the creation of a few olarships for the benefit of poor and deserving students of Madrasas ated in the Hooghly district?

The Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN replied :—

(*a*) "The balance at the credit of the 4/9ths share on the 31st March s Rs. 9,178-15-10, but this balance will be reduced after adjustments have n made on account of short fee payments for Muhammadan students. il this adjustment has been made and the distribution of the surplus for 3-14 of the whole estate has been made over to the different shares, it will be possible to state the exact amount standing at the credit of the 4/9ths e.

(*b*) The amount now in hand hardly comes up to the minimum re-ed for a working balance. There is, therefore, nothing available at pre-for expenditure on scholarships to Madrasa students. Government do propose to draw further upon the Mohsin Fund for this purpose."

the Hon'ble NAWAB SAIYID HOSSAM HAIDER CHAUDHURI, KHAN BAHADUR :—

*10. Are the Government aware that the town of Comilla is suffering the want of a good drainage system, and are they taking any steps to dy this, so as to improve the sanitation of the town?

The Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN replied :—

"Government are aware that the town of Comilla is suffering from want of a good drainage system. The preparation of a drainage scheme Comilla will be taken in hand on the completion of the survey of the town e Survey Department. This is expected to be within the next few months. n the scheme is prepared, it will be for the Municipality to come up with osals for financing it."

[*Nawab Saiyid, Nawab Ali Chaudhuri ; Mr. Green.*]

he Hon'ble NAWAB SAIYID, NAWAB ALI CHAUDHURI, KHAN BAHADUR :—

* 11. (*a*) Is it a fact that the Dhaleswari river is being gradually silted t many points and especially at its source ? **Silting up of the Dhaleswari.**

(*b*) Will the Government be pleased to state the result of the dredging ations (if any) which have been carried on in the said river ?

(*c*) Have similar operations been tried in other rivers ?

(*d*) If so, with what result ?

The Hon'ble MR. GREEN replied :—

11. (*a*) "Yes. A series of shoals has formed in the river extending a distance of 3 miles from the entrance from the Jamuna over which e was only 2½ feet of water last cold weather. There are also several ls above Dacca over which there were about 2½ feet of water.

(*b*) Dredging operations by the Steamer Company's dredgers were carried in the year 1912-13 and by the same Company's dredgers in the year 3-14. The channals dredged have remained in good order and have now less than 9 feet depth. But owing to the mouth of the river continually nging its position no permanent improvement of the entrance has been eved by dredging.

(*c*) Yes. The other rivers in which similar operations have been tried the Buriganga, the entrance of the Gorai, the entrance of the Bhagirathi,

(*d*) The reports on the Buriganga river show that the shoals except at mouth have not deteriorated since last season, although there is too little er in the driest season to admit of navigation by steamers.

The dredging at the Gorai entrance during 1912-13 was successful; it ntained a navigable channel with a depth of at least 6 feet of water ughout the whole length of the channel.

Dredging at the Bhagirathi mouth, at its entrance from the Ganges, has carried out for several years. The result of the dredging is dependent rely on the volume and duration of the previous monsoon floods. With and prolonged floods in the Bhagirathi, the river is improved, and the lging of the shoal which forms at the entrance in October, induces a good constant flow of water into the river. With low floods in the Monsoon or ls of short duration, the results of dredging the shoal are not so good, but mouth is kept open and an improved supply of water for drinking is ced from November to May."

the Hon'ble NAWAB SAIYID, NAWAB ALI CHAUDHURI, KHAN BAHADUR :—

* 12. Are the Government considering the advisability of trying the an system of excavating silted-up river courses ?

The Hon'ble MR. GREEN replied :—

"The Public Works Department are not aware that any special em prevails in Italy for excavating silted-up river courses; but if the ble Member refers to the Italian process of improving the agricultural e of land by silt deposit and drainage, which is known as '*Bonificazione*,' process is now being tried in the Bistupur Bheel in the neighbourhood of hampore." **Trial of Italian system of excavating silted-up river courses.**

[*Nawab Saiyid, Nawab Ali Chaudhuri; Mr. Green; Mr. Stephen Mr. Samman.*]

By the Hon'ble NAWAB SAIYID, NAWAB ALI CHAUDHURI, K BAHADUR :—

Schemes for improving the waterways of Bengal.

* 13. (*a*) Is it a fact that an expert has been appointed to consid several schemes for improving the waterways of Bengal ?

(*b*) If so, will the Government be pleased to publish his report subject when it is received ?

The Hon'ble MR. GREEN replied :—

(*a*) "No expert has been appointed to consider schemes for in ing the waterways of Bengal generally; but Mr. O. C. Lees was appoin frame the project for a Grand Trunk Canal to connect the Hooghly ar Bidyadhari rivers for facility of navigation between Western and Ea Bengal. The project is now under the consideration of the Governme India. The estimated cost is Rs. 2,73,66,000.

(*b*) Mr. Lees' report on the Grand Trunk Canal project was pr and copies were forwarded to the Departments of Government and to r sentative bodies of the mercantile community."

By the Hon'ble NAWAB SAIYID, NAWAB ALI CHAUDHURI, K BAHADUR :—

Reconstruction of the Mitford Hospital at Dacca.

* 14. (*a*) Are the Government aware that a considerable sum of m was raised by public subscription for the purpose of reconstructin Mitford Hospital at Dacca and renaming it after His late Majesty Edward VII ?

(*b*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether any steps are b taken to give effect to this project ?

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON replied :—

(*a*) "The King Edward Memorial Fund Committee set aside a tion of the fund for the purpose of reconstructing the Mitford Hospital some subscriptions have been reserved for the same purpose.

(*b*) The plans and the programme of the work have been settled, main estimates are being prepared and work on a portion of the buil will be started at once."

By the Hon'ble NAWAB SAIYID, NAWAB ALI CHAUDHURI, KH BAHADUR :—

Eden High School for Girls.

* 15. (*a*) Is it a fact that complaints have from time to time been m with regard to the Eden High School for Girls ?

(*b*) If so, are the Government considering the advisability of institu an inquiry into the internal administration of the said school and the ho attached to it ?

The Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN replied :—

(*a*) "Government have noticed several articles in the public press.

(*b*) The answer is in the negative. Government have full confide in the Managing Committee, the President of which is the Divisi Commissioner."

[*Maulvi Musharraf Husain; Mr. Samman.*]

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS.

ıe Hon'ble MAULVI MUSHARRAF HUSAIN :—

[.—Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement ing, district by district, the number of village tanks in this Presidency have been cleared or excavated and reserved for drinking purposes by ssal Boards during the last financial year?

Village tanks in the Presidency

'he following reply by the Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN was laid on the table :—

A statement embodying the information asked for is laid on the table."

nent referred to in the Ans ver by the Hon'ble Mr. Samman to Question 'o. I unstarred asked by the Hon'ble Maulvi Musharraf Husain at the 'ouncil meeting of the 5th August, 1914, showing the number of tanks reavated, re-excavated or cleared and reserved for drinking purposes by District Boards during the year 1913-14.

ıstrict Boards.	Tanks excavated, re-excavated or cleared.	Tanks reserved	REMARKS.
WAN DIVISION.			
van ...	...	...	
um ...	35	12	
ıra ...	3(*a*)	...(*b*)	(*a*) Two were reserved in 1912-13 (*b*) Five tanks were reserved temporarily during the year
ıpore ...	61	54	
ıly ...	34	6	
ah ...	10	3	
otal ...	143	75	
IDENCY DIVISION.			
ganas ...	19	19	
...	2	2	
idabad ...	13	13	
ɜ ...	10(*c*)	10	(*c*) Includes one tank cleared and reserved by a Union Committee
a ...	37(*d*)	37	(*d*) Excavation or re-excavation of 11 more tanks was taken up, but not completed during 1913-14
otal ...	81	81	

[*Mr. Samman ; Maulvi Musharraf Husain ; Mr. Kerr.*]

District Boards.	Tanks excavated, re-excavated or cleared.	Tanks reserved.	REMARKS.
DACCA DIVISION.			
Dacca ...	4	4	
Mymensingh ...	12	2	
Faridpur ...	52	28	
Bakarganj ...	96(*e*)	96	(*e*) The District Board made a contribution to the Khas Mahal Department towards the excavation of 9 more tanks.
Total ...	164	130	
CHITTAGONG DIVISION.			
Chittagong ...	49	49	
Tippera ...	62	31	
Noakhali ...	6	6	
Total ...	117	86	
RAJSHAHI DIVISION.			
Rajshahi ...	9(*f*)	...	(*f*) The owners of the tanks agreed to abide by rules imposed by the District Board and to keep the tanks clear.
Dinajpur ...	1	1	
Jalpaiguri ...	...(*g*)	...	(*g*) Wells form the source of water-supply in this district as, owing to the sandy nature of the soil, tanks are useless in the dry season
Rangpur ...	3	3	
Bogra ...	4(*h*)	...	(*h*) Four tanks were taken up last year for re-excavation, but could not be completed as they were taken up in the latter part of the year after the new grant had been sanctioned. Wells generally form the source of water-supply in the district. Out of 17 wells sanctioned, 3 have been completed and the rest are under construction
Pabna ...	1(*i*)	...	(*i*) Work not completed.
Malda ...	3	3	
Total ...	21	7	
GRAND TOTAL ...	526	379	

By the Hon'ble MAULVI MUSHARRAF HUSAIN :—

Mohsin 11.—Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table the detailed Budget estimates of the Mohsin Fund for the years 1913-14 and 1914-15.

The following reply by the Hon'ble MR. KERR was laid on the table :—

"The estimates referred to are laid on the table."

ESTIMATES REFERRED TO IN THE ANSWER BY THE HON'BLE MR. KERR TO QUESTION No. 11 (UNSTARRED) ASKED BY THE HON'BLE MAULVI MUSHARRAF HUSAIN AT THE COUNCIL MEETING OF THE 5TH AUGUST, 1914.

Budget Estimate of the Mohsin Endowment Fund for the year 1913-14.

Heads.	Actuals.			Budget Estimate 1912-13.	Actuals for the first 8 months of—		Revised Estimate, 1912-13.		Estimate, 1913-14.			Explanatory Remarks.
	1909-10.	1910-11.	1911-12.		1911-12	1912-13.	Proposed by Account-ant-General.	Passed by Govern-ment.	Proposed by Local Officers	Revised by Account-ant-General.	Passed by Govern-ment.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
RECEIPTS.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs	
ıg balance			(a)				10,022			7,581	7,581	(a) Opening balance for 1911-12 for Bengal as now constituted is not available.
e from endowments—												
iittance from Saidpur Estate ...			63,807	60,000	43,807	40,000			60,000	60,000	60,000	
rest on fixed endowment ...			36,903	36,903	39,903	36,903			36,903	36,903	36,903	Represents interest on Government securities for Rs. 10,57,000 at 3½ per cent. per annum *less* commission at 4 annas per cent.
rest on variable securities ...			3,156	3,156	3,156	3,156			3,156	3,156	3,156	Represents interest on Government securities for Rs. 90,400 at 3½ per cent. per annum *less* commission at 4 annas per cent.
ribution from Government ...			...	...	...	...			18,000	...	...	
laneous—												
ellaneous receipts			...	1,000	...	...			745	745	745	Decrease due to the settlement of the ferry ghât at a reduced rent.
ion—												
rasa fees			14,821	...	9,730	277			15,560	15,760	15,760	Includes provision for Dacca, Rajshahi and Chittagong Madrasas.
ellaneous receipts			136	...	136	9,362			200			
Total ...			1,18,823	1,01,059	93,732	89,698	1,14,569		1,34,564	1,16,564	1,16,564	
Grand Total ..							1,24,581		...	1,24,145	1,24,145	
EXPENDITURE.												
as			50,840	28,899	32,771	31,197			56,044	(a)56,044	38,044	(a) Increase due to larger provision for Dacca, Rajshahi and Chittagong Madrasas.
ıhips			8,822	5,211	5,281	3,547			7,548	(b) 7,548	7,548	(b) Increase due to larger provision for scholarships in East Bengal and to a provision of Rs. 700 for scholarships in Sylhet.
o Madrasas			844	369	288	360			1,556	(c) 1,556	1,000	(c) Increase due to larger provision for grants to Madrasas in East Bengal and also to provision for grants to Joneghat Madrasa and for Muhammadan hostel at Midnapore.
e payments of Muhammadan ats			11,738	13,770	486	368			19,968	(d)19,968	14,033	(d) Increase due to provision of Rs. 5,865 for short-fee payments of Government schools and colleges and also of private colleges in East Bengal. The estimate also includes a provision of Rs. 648 for
ıneous			3,568	50	1,726	2,401			50	50	50	

									education in that province sanctioned in Government of India order No. 652 A., dated the 14th October 1912.
ICAL.									
! *Dispensaries.*									
to the Dufferin Hos-tients	1,200	1,200	800	...	1,200	1,200	1,200		
maintenance of the l	9,780	9,702	8,262	9,714	12,474	(*f*) 12,474	11,500		(*f*) Increase due to provision being made for larger contribution from the Mohsin Fund to the Imambara Hospital Fund for keeping the hospital up to date in every respect. The estimate also includes provision for the proposed annual contribution of Rs. 750 for the upkeep of the hospital building.
... ...	1,495	1,635	915	2,105	1,635	1,635	1,635		
miscellaneous ..	115	125	68	61	75	125	125		
... ...	520	370	405	243	370	370	370		
ence of the family of he Unani Dispensary	..	...	...	...	50	(*g*) ...	.....		(*g*) Provided under "Contingencies" under which the charge is properly adjustable.
Establishment.									
... ...	789	846	521	494	796	846	846		
... ..	...	...	...	...	50	(*i*) ...	.. ...		(*i*) Provided under "Clerks and servants" under which the charges are properly adjustable.
miscellaneous ...	208	84	73	33	84	84	84		
Endowment.									
share	9,446	6,667	3,889	4,868	6,667	6,667	6,667		Local Agents' estimate reproduced.
inths share ..	18,278	20,103	11,667	13,333	20,103	20,103	20,103		
ment	8,058	9,669	5,640	6,153	9,669	9,669	9,669		
... ...	...		...	89	...	(*j*) ...	500		(*j*) It is for Government to decide whether any provision should be made under this head or not.
... ...	...	...	.	...	60	(*k*)	...		(*k*) Included under "Imambara establishment" under which the charge is adjusted

Budget Estimate of the Mohsin Endowment Fund for the year 1913-14—concluded.

Heads.	Actuals.			Budget Estimate, 1912-13.	Actuals for the first 8 months of—		Revised Estimate, 1912-13.		Estimate, 1913-14.		Passed by Government.	Explanatory Remarks.
	1909-10.	1910-11.	1911-12.		1911-12.	1912-13.	Proposed by Accountant-General.	Passed by Government.	Proposed by Local Officers.	Revised by Accountant-General.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
MEDICAL—*concluded.*	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs	Rs.	
Superannuations.												
...s			292	368	203	221			490	490	490	Includes provision of Rs. 122 for the pension of the late resident Manager, Muhammadan hostel, attached to the Hooghly College.
...ies												
...ublic Works by Civil Officers.												
...l works			...	...	...	..			...	..	.....	No provision made as there are no works administratively approved by Government to be carried out by the Public Works Department during the year 1913-14—*vide* Government order No. 285 A., dated the 25th January 1913.
... ...												
...shment												
...nd plant												
...ment of the advance made from ...rincial Revenues			9,000	...	9,000	...			...	...	.. ...	
... ...			1,118	...	...	...			...	...	.....	
Total ...			1,36,110	1,02,358	81,998	77,307	1,36,000		1,42,029	1,42,029	1,17,064	
...—Amount payable from General Revenues in terms of Government order No. 501 F.—494, dated the 29th January 1913..			...	...	...	...	—18,000		...	—18,000	.....	
Net Total ...			1,36,110	1,02,358	81,998	77,307	1,17,000		1,42,029	1,24,029	1,17,064	
Closing balance. ...							7,581			116	7,081	
Grand Total. ...							1,24,581			1,24,145	1,24,145	

ESTIMATES REFERRED TO IN THE ANSWER BY THE HON'BLE MR. KERR TO QUESTION No. II (UNSTARRED) ASKED BY THE HON'BLE MAULVI MUSHARRAF HUSAIN AT THE COUNCIL MEETING OF THE 5TH AUGUST, 1914.

Budget Estimate of the Mohsin Endowment Fund for the year 1914-15.

Heads.	Actuals.			Budget Estimate, 1913-14.	Actuals for the first 8 months of—		Revised Estimate, 1913-14.		Estimate, 1914-15.			Explanatory Remarks.
	1910-11	1911-12.	1912-13.		1912-13.	1913-14	Proposed by Account-ant-General.	Passed by Govern-ment.	Proposed by Local Officers.	Revised by Account-ant-General.	Passed by Govern-ment.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
RECEIPTS.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
; balance		...	10,022	..	...	...	6,486	6,486	...	11,545	11,545	
from endowments—												
;tance from Saidpur estate		63,807	60,000	60,000	40,000	40,000			60,000	60,000	60,000	
ıst on fixed endowment ...		36,903	36,902	36,903	36,903	36,903			36,903	(a) 36,903	36,903	(a) Represents interest on Government securities for Rs. 10,57,000 at 3½ per cent. per annum *less* commission at 4 annas per cent.
ıst on variable securities ..		3,156	3,156	3,156	3,156	3,156			3,156	(b) 3,156	3,156	(b) Represents interest on Government securities for Rs. 90,400 at 3½ per cent. per annum *less* commission at 4 annas per cent.
ıneous—												
llaneous receipts		...	10	745	...	93			1,055	(c) 100	100	(c) Increase provision made by the local agent in view of the new settlement of the ferry ghat at an enhanced rent. As these receipts are not to be brought upon the accounts (*vide* Bengal Government, General Department, No. 501, dated the 23rd August 1879) the provision is reduced with reference to actuals.
ion—												
asa fees		14,821	429	15,760	277	172				(d)	...	(d) The Director of Public Instruction states that the fees and fines of the Madrasas in Eastern Bengal, which are at present shown as receipts of the Mohsin Fund, should, with effect from 1914-15, be treated as receipts of the Education Department. He has accordingly provided Rs. 16,000 as Madrasa fees for 1914-15 under "XIX—Education" which has been adopted by Government Provision has therefore been omitted here.
llaneous receipts		136	15,207		9,362	9,735						

...as in East Bengal.												tion for Eastern Bengal Madrasa has been omitted, and it is proposed to debit the expenditure directly to Provincial Revenues (*vide* remarks on page 5).
Total ..		1,18,823	1,33,704	1,16,664	89,698	90,059	1,14,059	1,44,059	1,01,114	(*g*) 1,00,159	1,00,159	(*g*) The revised include Rs. 10,000, being the amount allotted to the several shares of the fund out of the surplus income of the Syedpur Trust estate (*vide* Bengal Government order No. 1366, dated the 11th July 1913) and Rs. 18,000, being the contribution sanctioned in Bengal Government Financial Department, No. 504F.—494, dated the 29th January 1913.
...ND TOTAL ...			1,43,726				1,50,545	1,50,545		1,11,704	1,11,704	
...NDITURE.												
... ...		54,408	55,160	38,044	33,598	34,173			20,640	(*a*)20,640	20,640	(*a*) Includes the following — Rs. Government Madrasas in West Bengal ... ... 4,580; Grant to the Mutawallis of the Sitapur Madrasa ... 300; Government Madrasas in East Bengal (at Dacca, Chittagong and Rajshahi) ... 15,760
... ..		8,822	7,678	7,548	3,547	3,961			7,548	(*b*)7,548	7,548	(*b*) West Bengal ... ... 3,348; East Bengal ... ... 4,200; Total ... 7,548. Includes net grant for educational proposes in Assam.
... ...		844	920	1,000	360	770			1,200	(*c*)1,200	1,200	(*c*) Grant for prizes in the Sitapur Madrasa at Hooghly, grant to the Joraghat Madrasa at Hooghly, and grant for boarders in the Muhammadan hostel at Midnapore ... 600; Grant to Madrasa in East Bengal 600

Budget Estimate of the Mohsin Endowment Fund for the year 1914-15—concld.

Heads.	Actuals.			Budget Estimate, 1913-14.	Actuals for the first 8 months of—		Revised Estimate, 1913-14.		Estimate, 1914-15.		Passed by Government.	Explanatory Remarks.
	1910-11.	1911-12.	1912-13.		1912-13.	1913-14.	Proposed by Accountant-General.	Passed by Government.	Proposed by Local Officers.	Revised by Accountant-General.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
EXPENDITURE—*concluded.*												
-fee payments of Muhammadan dents.		11,738	16,382	14,033	368	1,247			15,038	(d)15,038	15,038	(d) Includes Rs. 192 for Campbell Medical School and Rs. 708 for the Dacca Medical School and Rs. 6,738 in West Bengal and Rs. 7,400 in East Bengal for other Schools.
llaneous		...	...	50	...	...			...	...	.....	
grant for educational purposes in ar and Orissa.		...	3,200	3,200	3,200	3,200			3,200	3,200	3,200	
MEDICAL.												
Hospital and Dispensaries.												
al contribution to the Dufferin Hos-l for female patients.		1,200	3,153	1,200	...	...			1,200	1,200	1,200	
ibution for the maintenance of the mbara Hospital.		9,780	9,792	11,500	9,714	10,960			14,460	(e)14,460	13,000	(e) Provision has been made for larger contribution on account of the increase in the rate of pay and pension contribution of the Assistant Surgeon as well as in the pay of some of the hospital staff and also on account of increased dietary charges.
Dispensary—												
ablishment		1,495	1,545	1,635	1,025	1,102			1,635	1,635	1,635	
tingencies and miscellaneous ...		115	109	125	61	45			125	125	125	
ar medicines		520	382	370	243	182			370	370	370	
Local Agents' Establishment.												
... ...		789	759	846	494	530			846	846	846	
st												
allowance		...	...	...	...	...			...	...	600	
agencies and Miscellaneous ...		208	74	84	38	22			84	84	84	

hare		9,445	7,090	6,667	4,868	4,445			6,667	6,667	6,667	
hare		18,278	20,000	20,103	13,333	13,333			20,103	(f)20,000	20,000	(f) Reduced by Rs. 103 as the $\frac{3}{8}$th share of Rs. 80 000 comes to Rs. 20,000 instead of Rs. 20,103.
ihment		8,058	9,376	9,669	6,153	6,446			9,609	9,609	9,609	
.. ..		...	...	...	...				...	(g)...	.....	(g) It is for Government to decide whether any provision should be made under this head.
.. ..		...	206	500	89	153			...	...	.....	
rannuations.												
... ...		292	387	490	221	159			368	368	368	
... ...												
ks by Civil Officers.												
... ...												
... ...		...	...	...	...			.....		(h)...	.....	(h) No provision made, as there are no works administratively approved by Government to be carried out by the Public Works Department during 1914-15 (*vide* Bengal Government, Public Works Department No. 255 A., dated the 13th January, 1914).
... .												
... ...												
... ...		1,118	24	...	...			.....		...	.....	
iforeseen charges ...		...	1,004	..	...			.....		...	.....	
he advance made from												
venues		9,000	...	...	...			.....		...	.....	
Total ...		1,36,110	1,37,240	1,17,064	77,307	80,728	1,39,000	1,39,000	1,03,093	(i)1,02,990	1,02,130	(i) The revised includes Rs. 1,100 on account of the Mutawali's share of the distribution of Rs. 10,000 out of the surplus income of the Saidpur Trust estate. It is for Government to consider whether provision should be made either in the revised 1913-14 or budget 1914-15 on account of the other shares in terms of Bengal Government No. 1366, dated the 11th July 1913.
losing balance ...			6,486				11,545	11,545		8,714	9,574	
GRAND TOTAL ...			1,43,726				1,50,545	1,50,545		1,11,704	1 11,704	

[*Maharaja R. Sinha of Nashipur; Mr. Samman.*]

By the Hon'ble MAHARAJA RANAJIT SINHA OF NASHIPUR :—

Expenditure by District Boards on Sanitation and Water-supply.

III.—Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing the amount spent by each District Board in the Presidency during the last financial year for the purpose of Sanitation and specially for rural Water-supply?

The following reply by the Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN was laid on the table :—

"A statement giving the information for which the Hon'ble Member asks is laid on the table."

Statement referred to in the Answer by the Hon'ble Mr. Samman to Question No. III (unstarred) asked by the Hon'ble Maharaja Ranajit Sinha of Nashipur at the Council Meeting of the 5th August, 1914, showing the amount spent on Sanitation and on Water-supply in rural areas by District Boards in the Presidency of Bengal during the year 1913-1914.

Name of District Board.	Total amount spent on— Sanitation, including Water-supply.	Water-supply in rural areas.	Remarks.
BURDWAN DIVISON.	Rs.	Rs.	
Burdwan ...	10,077	8,146	
Birbhum ...	30,638	21,562	
Bankura ...	3,018	2,953	
Midnapore ...	80,645	51,964	
Hooghly ...	12,104	6,914	
Howrah ...	5,169	3,648	
Total ...	1,41,651	95,187	
PRESIDENCY DIVISION.			
24-Parganas ...	11,690	6,861	
Nadia	11,538 *	9,488 *	* This excludes advances to the amount of Rs. 3,000 made by the Chairmen of Local Boards, Chuadanga, Kushtia and Meherpur for works of village sanitation during 1918-14, but not yet adjusted.
Murshidabad ...	7,278	687	
Jessore ...	15,239	11,517	
Khulna ...	28,133	23,257	
Total ...	73,878	51,810	

[*Mr. Samman : Maulvi M. A. Chaudhuri.*]

Name of District Board.	Total amount spent on—		Remarks.
	Sanitation, including Water-supply.	Water-supply in rural areas.	
Dacca Division.			
Dacca	38,318	33,754	
Mymensingh ...	30,788	25,448	
Faridpur ...	32,862	31,807	
Bakarganj ...	23,687	17,218	
Total ...	1,25,655	1,08,227	
Rajshahi Division.			
Rajshahi ...	12,699	8,593	
Dinajpur ...	6,861	5,871	
Jalpaiguri ...	5,532	5,288	
Rangpur ...	17,518	14,908	
Bogra	22,933	22,913	
Pabna	2,688	2,613	
Malda	5,548	5,300	
Total ...	73,779	65,486	
Chittagong Division.			
Chittagong ...	14,724	14,645	
Tippera	27,898	23,349	
Noakhali ...	9,441	3,679	
Total ...	52,063	41,673	

By the Hon'ble MAULVI MAZHARUL ANWAR CHAUDHURI :—

Muhammada Girls' Schools the Presidency.

IV.—Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing—

(*i*) the number of Muhammadan Girls' Schools in the Presidency,

(*ii*) the places where they are located, and

(*iii*) the grant (if any) which each of them receives from the Government, or the local authorities, or both ?

The following reply by the Hon'ble Mr. Samman was laid on the table :—

"No sharp demarcation has ever been drawn by the Education Department between Muhammadan and non-Muhammadan schools in the presidency.

A statement is laid on the table showing the number of schools attended wholly or mainly by Muhammadan girls, the places where they are located and the grants which they receive."

[*Mr. Samman.*]

Statement referred to in the Answer by the Hon'ble Mr. Samman to Question No. IV asked by the Hon'ble Maulvi Mazharul Anwar Chaudhuri at the Council Meeting of the 5th August, 1914.

LIST OF MUHAMMADAN GIRLS' SCHOOLS.

I—PRESIDENCY DIVISION.

Serial No.	NUMBER AND NAMES OF SCHOOLS, IF ANY.	Name of the place or district.	MONTHLY GRANT.			REMARKS.
			Government.	District Board.	Municipal Fund.	
			Rs. A.	Rs. A.	Rs. A.	
1	Suhrawardy Memorial	Calcutta ...	200 0	...	...	
2	Sakhawat Memorial ...	Ditto ...	71 0	...	...	To be raised to Rs. 448
3	Muhammadan orphanage.	Ditto ...	23 0	...	...	
4	44 Girls' Maktabs ...	Ditto ...	...	...	...	Grants from Rs. 2 to Rs. 5 partly from Primary and partly from Maktab Fund.
47	Total for Calcutta, 47 Muhammadan Girls' schools.					
5	Navadwip school	Nadia ...	6 0	...	3 0	
6	Chandsurak do.	...	5 8	...	4 0	
7	Goari Moslem do.	...	3 0	...	4 0	
8	Birpara do.	...	2 8	10 0	6 8	
9	Amaraparah do.	...	6 0	...	5 0	
10	39 Aided Maktabs ...	...	...	...	...	Grant from Board varying from Re. 1 8 to Rs. 4.
11	Hatia Peasant Girls' schools.	...	13 0	...	...	This is a Government School.
12	8 Unaided Maktabs ...	...	...	...	...	
53	Total for Nadia district, 53 Muhammadan girls' schools.					
13	3 Peasant Girls' schools	Khulna	13 0	...	...	Government schools.
14	Sultanpur Class do.	...	30 0	...	...	Maintained by Government.
15	3 Maktabs in Municipal areas.	...	..	...	3 0	
16	98 Maktabs in District Boards.	...	...	...	...	Grants from Rs. 2 to Rs. 5.
105	Total for Khulna District, 105, Muhammadan Girls' Schools.					
17	4 Peasant Girls' schools.	Murshidabad	13 0	...	...	These are Government Schools.
18	17 Aided Maktabs ...	Ditto ...	384 0 (annually).	365 0 (annually).	...	
19	4 Unaided Maktabs ...	Ditto ...	...	...	...	
25	Total for Murshidabad district, 25 schools.					

[*Mr. Samman.*]

Serial No.	Number and names of schools, if any.	Name of the place or district.	Monthly Grant.			Remarks
			Government.	District Board.	Municipal Fund	
			Rs. A.	Rs. A.	Rs. A.	
20	17 Aided Maktabs ...	24-Parganas	570 0 (annually.)	448 0 (annually.)	...	
21	6 unaided do ...	Ditto ...	...	...	...	
23	Total for 24-Parganas, 23 Muhammadan girls' schools.					
22	54 Aided Maktabs ...	Jessore ...	72 0 (annually).	1,583 0 (annually).	28 0 (annually).	
23	13 Unaided Maktabs	Ditto ...	...	...	...	
67	Total for Jessore, 67 Muhammadan Girls' Schools.					
	Total No. of Muhammadan Girls' Schools in the Presidency Division, 320.					

II—Burdwan Division.

1	11 Maktabs of Howrah Municipality.	Howrah ...	...	...	Rs. 2 to Rs. 4.	
2	11 Maktabs in District Board area.	Ditto	...	Rs. 3 12 to Rs. 6-4.	...	
22	Total for Howrah District, 22 Muhammadan Girls' Schools.					
3	Midnapore Moslem Girls'.	Midnapore...	Rs. 100	...	...	
4	24 Aided Maktabs ...	Ditto	Rs. 2 to Rs. 6.	Re. 1-8 to Rs. 3-12.	...	
5	13 Unaided Maktabs	Ditto	...	...	...	
38	Total for Midnapore District, 38 Muhammadan Girls' Schools.					
6	Hanifia Moslem Girls'	Burdwan ...	Rs. 70	...	Rs. 5	
7	Ghorashid Girls' ...	Ditto	„ 3-8	...	„ 4	
8	12 Maktabs ...	Ditto	...	Rs. 2 to Rs. 4.	...	
14	Total for Burdwan District, 14 Muhammadan Girls' Schools.					

[*Mr. Samman.*]

Serial No.	NUMBER AND NAMES OF SCHOOLS, IF ANY.	Name of the place or district.	MONTHLY GRANT			REMARKS.
			Government.	District Board.	Municipal Fund.	
9	30 Aided Maktabs ...	Birbhum ...	...	Re. 1 to Rs. 3.	...	
10	12 Unaided Maktabs	Ditto	...	...	...	
42	Total for Birbhum District, 42 Muhammadan Girls' Schools.					
11	22 Maktabs ...	Hooghly ...	...	Re. 1 to Rs. 3.	...	
22	Total for Hooghly District, 22 Muhammadan Girls' Schools.					
	No Muhammadan Girls' Maktab reported to exist in Bankura District.					
	Total No. of Muhammadan Girls' Schools in the Burdwan Division, 138.					

III—DACCA DIVISION.

			Rs. A.	Rs. A.	Rs. A.	
1	Posta Girl's Lower Primary School.	Dacca ...	...	...	...	These schools are maintained out of the Municipal grant of Rs. 110+Rs. 330 from Government through Municipality jointly with other schools. These schools are in the town of Dacca.
2	Choudhury Bazar School	Do. ...	...	...	...	
3	Aga Nawab's Dewry No. 1.	Do. ...	...	...	...	
4	Aga Nawab's Dewry No. 2.	Do. ...	...	...	...	
5	Rokunpur Maktab ...	Do. ...	...	...	...	
6	Narinda ...	Do. ...	...	...	...	
7	Hussain Dalan ...	Do. ..	...	..	...	
8	Mondalpara Lower Primary.	Do. ...	...	...	...	22, including Government grant.
9	Beltali Muhammadan Girls'.	Do. ...	Rs. 10	...	...	
10	308 other Aided Schools	Do. ...	...	...	...	Board grant varies from Re. 1-4 to Rs. 5-8.
317	Total for Dacca District, 317 Muhammadan Girls' Schools.					
1	Kanchijhuli Muhammadan School.	Mymensingh	Rs. 39	...	...	
2	Kashar Special ...	Ditto ...	..	8 8	...	
3	Berai Taltala ...	Ditto ...	Govt.	...	...	

[Mr. Samman.]

Serial No.	Number and names of schools, if any.	Name of the place or district.	Monthly Grant. Government.	Monthly Grant. District Board.	Monthly Grant. Municipal Fund.	Remarks.
			Rs. A.	Rs. A.	Rs. A.	
4	361 Aided Schools in District Board area.	Mymensingh	...	...	...	Board grant varies from Re. 1 to Rs 6.
5	36 Unaided Schools ...	Ditto ...	...	...	...	
400	Total for Mymensingh District, 400 Muhammadan Girls' Schools					
1	Char Bhadrason Girls'	Faridpur ...	1 0	2 0	...	
2	Chaudhuri Char ,,	Ditto ...	2 8	3 0	...	
3	Saitan Khali ,,	Ditto ...	1 8	...	...	
4	Baha Char ,,	Ditto ...	1 0	1 8	...	
5	Sewrchar ,,	Ditto ...	1 8	5 8	...	
6	Khas Char ,,	Ditto ...	1 8	3 0	...	
7	Mafijuddi Biparir ,,	Ditto ...	1 8	3 0	...	
8	East Sahebrampur ,,	Ditto ...	4 0	5 0	...	
9	North ,, ,,	Ditto ...	3 0	3 0	...	
10	109 other District Board Aided School.	Ditto ...	...	...	...	Board grant varies from Re. 1 to Rs. 5.
11	76 Unaided Maktabs...	Ditto ...	...	...	...	
194	Total for Faridpur District, 194 Muhammadan Girls' Schools.					
						Rs.
1	Mabut Kenda Girls'	Bakarganj District.	...	...	...	96 during 1913-14.
2	Ghaze Khali ,,	Ditto ...	...	...	...	70 ditto
3	Chote Gouri Choma Girls'.	Ditto ...	...	...	...	60 ditto.
4	Kenria Girls'	Ditto ...	...	...	...	89 ditto
5	Dhulkhola ,,	Ditto ...	...	...	...	72 ditto.
6	E. Nazirpur ,,	Ditto ...	...	...	...	72 ditto.
7	Tetulia ,,	Ditto ...	...	...	...	78 ditto.
8	Kakaria ,,	Ditto ...	...	...	...	60 ditto.
9	233 other Aided Schools.	Ditto ...	...	...	...	Grant varied from Rs. 9 to Rs. 55 during the year 1913-14.
	81 Unaided Schools ...	Ditto ...	...	...	...	
322	Total for Bakarganj District, 322 Muhammadan Girls' Schools.					
	Total No. of Muhammadan Girls' Schools in the Dacca Division—1233.					

[*Mr. Samman.*]

IV—RAJSHAHI DIVISION.

Serial No.	NUMBER AND NAMES OF SCHOOLS, IF ANY.	Name of the place or district	MONTHLY GRANT.			REMARKS.
			Government.	District Board.	Municipal Fund.	
			Rs.	Rs. A.	Rs. A.	
1	Belghoria Model Girls'	Rajshahi ...	...	...	...	Maintained by Government.
2	Kazirganj ditto	Ditto ...	4	2 8	...	
3	Chak Balaki ditto	Ditto ...	...	9 0	...	
4	Kujoil ditto	Ditto ...	...	...	...	Maintained by Government.
5	99 other District Board Aided.	Ditto ...	...	...	...	Board grant varies from Re. 1-8 to Rs. 5 a month.
6	9 Unaided Maktabs ...	Ditto ...	...	...	...	
112	Total for Rajshahi District, 112 Muhammadan Girls' Schools.					
1	Ghoraghat Girls' School.	Dinajpur ...	...	10 0	...	
	Gudipara Girls' School	Ditto ...	...	10 0	...	
3	Sundarban ditto	Ditto ...	...	8 0	...	
4	44 other Aided Schools	Ditto ...	...	...	...	Grant varies from Rs. 2 to Rs 6.
5	4 Unaided Schools ...	Ditto ...	...	...	...	
51	Total for Dinajpur District, 51 Muhammadan Girls' Schools.					
1	Moonshipara Girls' Upper Primary.	Rangpur ...	30	15 0	10 0	
2	Devalbagi Special Girls'.	Ditto ...	...	10 0	...	
3	Pailchora Special Girls'	Ditto ...	...	10 0	...	
4	Nagdaha ditto	Ditto ...	...	12 0	...	
5	Goragram ditto	Ditto ...	...	12 0	...	
	94 other Aided Schools	Ditto ...	...	...	...	Board grant varies from Rs. 2 to Rs. 9.
	9 Unaided Maktabs ...	Ditto ...	...	...	...	
108	Total for Rangpur District, 108 Muhammadan Girls' Schools.					
1	Khaschar Beitali Girls'	Pabna ...	37	12 0	...	
2	Ghorshal Girls' ...	Do. ...	18	7 0	...	
3	Meghai do.	Do. ...	20°	5 0	...	°Proposed.
4	Chouhali do.	Do. ...	30°	3 0	...	°Proposed.
5	Hossainpur do.	Do. ...	3	5 0	..	

[*Mr. Samman.*]

Serial No.	Number and names of schools, if any.	Name of the place or district.	Monthly Grant. Government.	District Board.	Municipal Fund.	Remarks.
			Rs.	Rs. A.	Rs. A.	
6	Bhangabari Girls' ...	Pabna ...	...	...	4 0	
7	Sahay Girls' Maktab	Do. ...	..	...	1 4	
8	Rahamatganj Girls' Maktab.	Do. ...	...	...	2 0	
9	Radhanagar Girls' Maktab.	Do. ...	...	...	2 8	
10	Krishnapur Girls' Maktab.	Do. ...	...	...	3 8	
11	72 other Board Aided Schools.	.....	...	...	...	Board grant varies from Re. 1-8 to Rs 4-8
12	1 Unaided School ...	.....	...	...	...	
83	Total for Pabna District, 83 Muhammadan Girls' Schools.					
1	Saltrapur Girls' School	Bogra ...	...	4 0	3 0	
2	Bamunia ditto	Do. ...	..	6 0	...	
3	Rasidpur ditto	Do. ...	..	6 0	..	
4	Balua ditto	Do. ..	...	8 0	...	
5	Baiguni ditto	Do ...	...	8 0	...	
6	273 other Board Aided.	.....	..	...	...	Board grant varies from Re. 1 to Rs. 5.
7	2 Unaided ...	.....	...	...	...	
280	Total for Bogra District, 280 Muhammadan Girls' Schools.					
1	Butcher Busti Girls' Maktab.	Darjeeling	19	...	10 0	
1	Total for Darjeeling District, 1 Muhammadan Girls' School.					
1	Saldarga Girls' School	Jalpaiguri	...	12 0	...	
2	Rangalilazma Girls' School	Ditto	5	...	...	
3	22 Board Aided Schools.	Ditto	...	...	...	Board grant varies from Rs. 3 to Rs. 5.
24	Total for Jalpaiguri District, 24 Muhammadan Girls' Schools.					
1	Sankarbabi Girls' School.	Malda ...	3	...	1 8	
2	Ramkristapur Girls' School.	Do. ...	2	...	1 0	

[*Mr. Samman.*]

Serial No.	NUMBER AND NAMES OF SCHOOLS, IF ANY.	Name of the place or district.	MONTHLY GRANT. Government.	District Board	Municipal Fund.	REMARKS.
			Rs.	Rs.	Rs. A	
3	Imambari Girls' School	Malda ...	3	...	4 0	
4	39 Board Aided Girls' Schools.	Do. ...	...	...	...	Board grant varies from Re. 1-8 to Rs. 5.
42	Total for Malda District, 42 Muhammadan Girls' Schools.					
	Total No. of Muhammadan Girls' Schools in the Rajshahi Division, 701.					

V—CHITTAGONG DIVISION.

			Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
1	Hussainia Girls' School, Comilla.	Tippera ...	80	...	...	
2	Comilla Berara Class	Ditto ...	90	...	...	
3	Maniknagar Girls' Schpol.	Ditto ...	40	...	...	
4	216 Aided District Board Girls' School.	Ditto ...	...	...	...	Board grant varies from Re. 1 to Rs. 8 a month.
5	66 Unaided Schools...	Ditto ...				
285	Total for Tippera district, 285 Muhammadan Girls' Schools.					
1	Eklashpur Girls' School.	Noakhali ...	40	...	10	
2	Mankpur Board Model	Ditto ...	...	25	...	
3	Sripur Girls' U. P. ...	Ditto ...	...	10	...	
4	Munshi Bari ...	Ditto ...	4	9	...	
5	Nilokshari ...	Ditto ...	...	7	...	
6	161 other Aided Schools (District Board).	.....				Board grant varies from Re. 1 to Rs. 6 a month.
7	20 Unaided Schools...	.....				
186	Total for Noakhali district, 186 Muhammadan Girls' Schools.					
1	Postarpar Girls' U. P.	Chittagong	40	...	10	
2	Alkaran L. P. do.	Ditto ...	...	...	5	
3	Enayat Bazar do.	Ditto ...	...	...	8	
4	Baktapur do.	Ditto ...	2	1	...	
5	Raipur do.	Ditto ...	2	1	...	

[*Mr. Samman.*]

Serial No.	Number and names of schools, if any.	Name of the place or district.	Monthly Grant.			Remarks.
			Government.	District Board.	Municipal Fund.	
			Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
	Betagi Girls' U.P.	Chittagong	4	4	...	
7	Patiya Girls' School	Ditto ...	3	1	...	
8	South Echakhali do.	Ditto ...	3	...	...	
9	Kaira do	Ditto ...	3	2	...	
10	Harbhang do.	Ditto ...	4	4	...	
11	Magnama do.	Ditto ...	2	...	...	
12	Koirbil do.	Ditto ...	2	...	...	
13	Tarabania Chera do.	Ditto ...	...	...	3	
14	144 District Board Aided.					District Board grant varies from Re. 1 to Rs. 6 a month.
15	11 Unaided Schools ...					
168	Total for Chittagong district, 168 Muhammadan Girls' Schools.					
	Total No. of Muhammadan Girls' Schools in the Chittagong Division, 639.					

Summary Statement.

1.	Presidency Division	...	320	Muhammadan Girls Schools.
2.	Burdwan ditto	..	138	ditto.
3.	Dacca ditto	...	1,233	ditto.
4.	Rajshahi ditto	...	701	ditto.
5.	Chittagong ditto	...	639	ditto.
	Total	...	3,031	Muhammadan Girls Schools in the Presidency of Bengal.

[*Mr. G. H. C. Ariff ; Mr. Kerr ; Babu S. N. Banerji ; Mr. Samman.*]

By the Hon'ble MR. G. H. C. ARIFF :—

Certain statistics regarding clerks and muharrirs employed in Rural and District Sub-Registry offices in Bengal.

V.—Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing the total number of clerks and muharrirs in the Rural Sub-Registry offices and District Sub-Registry offices in the Presidency of Bengal and how many of them are Muhammadans and how many non-Muhammadans ?

The following reply by the Hon'ble MR. KERR was laid on the table :—

"A statement is laid on the table."

Statement referred to in the Answer by the Hon'ble MR. KERR to Question No. V (unstarred) asked by the Hon'ble MR. G. H. C. ARIFF at the Council Meeting of the 5th August, 1914, showing the number of Muhammadan and non-Muhammadan clerks and muharrirs in the Rural Sub-Registry offices and District Sub-Registry offices :—

Muhammadans	...	...	406
Non-Muhammadans	...	...	733
Total		...	1 139

By the Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI :—

Date of next election to District and Local Boards in Bengal.

VI.—Will the Government be pleased to state, district by district, when the next election to the District and Local Boards will take place in Bengal ?

The following reply by the Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN was laid on the table :—

"A statement showing when the District and Local Boards, in which the elective system is in force, were last reconstituted, is laid on the table. The period of office is three years."

[*Mr. Samman.*]

Statement referred to in the Answer by the Hon'ble Mr. Samman to Question No. VI (unstarred) asked by the Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Banerji at the Council Meeting of the 5th August, 1914, showing the month and year of the last reconstitution of the District and Local Boards in the Presidency of Bengal in which the Elective System is in force.

NAME OF DISTRICT.	Name of District Board.	Month and year of last reconstitution of the District Board.	Name of Local Board.	Month and year of last reconstitution of the Local Board.
BURDWAN DIVISION.				
Burdwan	Burdwan	August, 1912 ...	Katwa ... ... Kalna ... ... Asansol ... ... Sadar	January, 1912. May, ,,
Birbhum	Birbhum	May, ,, ...	Sadar ... ... Rampur Hât	April, ,,
Bankura	Bankura	June, 1911 ...	Sadar ... ... Vishnupur	June, ,,
Midnapore	Midnapore	December, ,, ...	Sadar ... ... Contai ... ... Tamluk ... ... Ghatal	August, ,, September, 1911.
Hooghly	Hooghly	July, ,, ...	Sadar ... ... Serampore ... ... Arambagh	February, 1914. March, 1911. ,, 1914.
Howrah	Howrah	January, 1914 .	Sadar ... ... Uluberia	December, 1913.
PRESIDENCY DIVISION.				
24-Parganas	24-Parganas	September, 1911 ...	Sadar ... ... Barrackpore ... ... Diamond Harbour ... ... Basirhat ... ... Barasat	April, 1911.
Nadia	Nadia	, 1912	Sadar ... ... Chuadanga ... ... Kushtia ... ... Ranaghat ... ... Meherpur	July, 1912
Murshidabad	Murshidabad	January ,, .	Sadar ... ... Kandi ... ... Jangipur	September, ,,
Jessore	Jessore	August, ,, ...	Magura ... ... Sadar ... ... Jhenidah ... ... Narail ... ... Bongaon	April, 1913.
Khulna	Khulna	September, 1911 ...	Sadar ... ... Bagerhat ... ... Satkhira	May, 1911.
DACCA DIVISION.				
Dacca	Dacca	June, 1912	Sadar ... ... Narayanganj ... ... Munshiganj ... ... Manikganj	May, 1914. June, ,,
Mymensingh	Mymensingh	May, 1913	Sadar ... ... Tangail ... ... Kishorganj ... ... Jamalpur ... ... Netrakona	November, 1912.
Faridpur	Faridpur	December, 1912 ...	Sadar ... ... Madaripur ... ... Gopalganj ... ... Goalundo	
Bakarganj	Bakarganj	September, 1913 ...	Sadar ... ... Firojpur	December, ,,
RAJSHAHI DIVISION.				
Rajshahi	Rajshahi	June, 1912	Boalia Sadar ... ... Nator ... ... Naogaon	January, ,,
Dinajpur	Dinajpur	May, 1911.		
Jalpaiguri	Jalpaiguri	September, 1912.		
Rangpur	Rangpur	March, 1913.		
Pabna	Pabna	December, 1912 ...	Pabna Sadar ... ... Sirajganj	September, ,,
CHITTAGONG DIVISION.				
Tippera	Tippera	September, 1912.		
Noakhali	Noakhali	April, ,,		

[*Babu Upendra Lal Ray ; Mr. Cumming ; Maulvi A. K. Faz-ul-Haq ; Mr. Kerr.*]

By the Hon'ble BABU UPENDRA LAL RAY :—

Certain statistics re Munsifs' quarters.

VII.—Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing—

(*i*) the number of Munsifs' quarters already constructed up to date ;

(*ii*) the number still remaining to be constructed ; and

(*iii*) the period within which the construction of these remaining buildings is likely to be completed ?

The following reply by the Hon'ble MR. CUMMING was laid on the table:—

(*i*) The number of Munsifs' quarters constructed up to date is 85.

(*ii*) The number of Munsifs' Courts in Bengal is 245. The number of Munsifs for whom Government quarters have not been provided is therefore 160 ; but some of these officers are additional Munsifs who sit at more than one place.

(*iii*) Administrative approval has been already accorded to the construction of 10 more such quarters. It is not possible to state definitely at what rate the construction of the remainder will proceed , and indeed there is no proposal before Government to construct quarters for all Munsifs. It is proposed to construct quarters only for those who find a difficulty in hiring suitable residences. The rate of progress depends on the funds available, which must be regulated by a consideration of the similar needs of all departments.

By the Hon'ble MAULVI A. K. FAZ-UL-HAQ :—

Alleged grievances of process serving peons in the matter of their pay.

VIII.—(*a*) Are the Government aware of the grievances of the process-serving peons attached to Civil Courts in the matter of their pay ?

(*b*) Will the Government be pleased to state what steps (if any) they are taking to raise the pay of these peons ?

The following reply by the Hon'ble MR. CUMMING was laid on the table :—

(*a*) "The answer is in the affirmative."
(*b*) "The matter is under the consideration of Government."

SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION.

The Hon'ble MAULVI A. K. FAZ-UL-HAQ asked the following supplementary question :—

"Is there any likelihood of a speedy decision in the matter ?"

The Hon'ble MR. KERR in the absence of the Hon'ble MR. CUMMING asked for notice of the question.

By the Hon'ble MAULVI A. K. FAZ-UL-HAQ :—

Number of Inspectors of Police officiating as Deputy Superintendents of Police.

IX.—Will the Government be pleased to state how many Inspectors of Police are now officiating as Deputy Superintendents of Police and how many of them are Muhammadans ?

[*Mr. Cumming ; Maulvi A. K. Faz-ul-Haq ; Mr. Green ; Nawab Saiyid. Nawab Ali Chaudhuri.*]

The following reply by the Hon'ble MR. CUMMING was laid on the table :—

"At present 22 Inspectors are officiating as Deputy Superintendents of Police. Of these, one is a Muhammadan."

By the Hon'ble MAULVI A. K. FAZ-UL-HAQ :—

X.—Will the Government be pleased to state whether they are considering any proposal for accelerating the train and steamer services between Dacca and Calcutta, or otherwise improving the means of communication between the two cities ? Accele the tr steamer between Calcutta.

The following reply by the Hon'ble MR. GREEN was laid on the table :—

"The answer to the first part of the question is in the negative, but Government understand that the Steamer Companies are constructing new steamers of a better and faster type to run upon this route.

As regards the second part, proposals to connect Dacca and Calcutta by railway have been made at various times during the last 40 years, but have been postponed owing to the great engineering difficulties encountered. In 1880, and again in 1900, surveys were made for a line from Dacca to Aircha, a point on the Ganges opposite Goalundo.

A statement is sent annually to the Government of India of new lines recommended by the Bengal Government. This line was included in the last statement so submitted; but there are other projects, particularly in the districts of Mymensingh, Bakarganj and Faridpur, which are more urgent than this."

By the Hon'ble NAWAB SAIYID, NAWAB ALI CHAUDHURI, KHAN BAHADUR :—

XI.—(*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state which of the schemes of Railway extensions to the Tangail subdivision of the Mymensingh District are actually under consideration, and which of them have been finally adopted ? Railwa sion to T

(*b*) When is the construction of the new railway likely to be taken in hand ?

The following reply by the Hon'ble MR. GREEN was laid on the table :—

(*a*) "The following schemes for the construction of railway lines in the Tangail subdivision of Mymensingh, the final decision regarding which rests with the Government of India, are now under consideration :—

(*1*) A broad-gauge line from a point on the Jamuna river opposite Sirajgunge to Mymensingh.
(*2*) A metre-gauge line from Mymensingh to Tangail with an extension to Porabari or Elashin.
(*3*) A narrow-gauge line from Jamalpur to Tangail.

No decision has as yet been arrived at as to which of these schemes is to be adopted.

(*b*) The Government of Bengal recognise the importance of the very early construction of one or more railways in the Tangail subdivision. Until a decision has been arrived at, it is not possible to say when construction is likely to be taken in hand."

The Bengal Excise (Amendment) Bill, 1914.

[*Mr. Moberly; Maulvi A. K. Faz-ul-Haq.*]

THE BENGAL EXCISE (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1914.

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 2.

The Hon'ble Mr. Moberly presented the report of the Select Committee on the Bengal Excise (Amendment) Bill, 1914.

The Hon'ble MR. MOBERLY said :—

"SIR,—In view of the inability of the Hon'ble Member in charge to present the report of the Select Committee which was appointed at the meeting of the 2nd July to consider the Bill to amend the Bengal Excise Act, 1909, I have the honour, at his request, to lay that report on the table. It will be observed that the Bill has been modified in two main particulars only. The object of these changes has primarily been to attain greater precision of expression. The first series of alterations has as its object the removal of ambiguities as to the territorial application of the Bengal Excise Act, 1909, as it will stand after amendment. The second has been rendered necessary by the adverse criticism, by the Calcutta High Court, in a recent case, of the definition of the term 'denatured,' which has been in force in various enactments in India for the last fifty years. The Select Committee is greatly indebted to the legal members of their body for their assistance in amending the clauses affected

Unanimity has been attained except as regards one point—the amendment of section 65 of the Bengal Excise Act, 1909, by clause 24 of the Bill, so as to extend the power of composition to all offences other than those which fall under section 58. It may be mentioned that the clause as it stands in the Bill is taken from section 70 of the Eastern Bengal and Assam Excise Act, 1910, and will make no alteration in the law actually in force at the present moment in a large part of the Presidency. Government do not however attach great importance to this amendment; but as the opinion of the non-official members of the Select Committee was divided, it was decided to leave the clause unchanged until the fuller sense of the Council had been obtained. If it is ascertained, when the Bill comes up for discussion, that a distinct majority of the non-official members are opposed to this amendment, Government do not propose to press it.

It is proposed to take up the discussion of the Bill at the meeting of the Council which will be held on the 4th September, and I would remind members that amendments must reach the Secretary to this Council not later than 11 A.M. on the 20th instant."

RESOLUTIONS.

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 3.

The Hon'ble MAULVI A. K. FAZ-UL-HAQ moved the following resolution :—

This Council recommends to the Governor in Council that, pending the permanent establishment of the Muhammadan Arts College in Calcutta, a well-equipped Arts College, with a boarding-house attached, be at once opened for Muhammadans in suitable hired houses in Calcutta.

He said :—

"In moving this resolution my object is simply to draw the attention of Government once more to the pressing needs of the problem of Muhammadan education, with which I dare say the Hon'ble the Director of Public Instruction is very familiar. It was in 1913 that several questions were put in this Council and discussions have been going on since then, both at the

[*Maulvi A. K. Faz-ul-Haq.*]

time of the Budget discussion and on other occasions, as regards the difficulties which Muhammadan students feel in obtaining admission into colleges and in finding suitable accommodation for themselves in Calcutta. This is a matter of common knowledge, and I do not think I should take up the time of this Council by dwelling at length on what, I take it to be, is an admitted fact. The question then remains—What remedy can we suggest for the presentstate of affairs? I think I may be permitted to say that Government have practically pledged themselves to give us, in view of our needs and requirements, a well-equipped Arts College. I take it as a necessary corollary that we shall also have a well-equipped boarding institution attached to this college. I know that the financial difficulties in the way of carrying out this project immediately are very great, and although Government have got enough money at their disposal for purposes like this, the demand on the Government resources is so very great that we should also possess our souls in patience before we can see our hopes realised. But as is well known, 'hope deferred maketh the heart sick', and we have been waiting for two years, and I would only to-day say a few words as to what has come to me as a personal revelation, if I may say so, as regards the difficulties of Muhammadan students in Calcutta. This was after the examination results were out. I issued a notice that I would be willing to accommodate a certain number of students who did not find admission into any of the different recognised hostels. I was flooded with applications, and no less than 127 students came to see me, but I said I was not going to run a boarding institution, but I was going to accommodate such of them as I found to be extremely deserving, and could not by any efforts of their own secure admission. have accommodated 17 of them. I saw the Hon'ble the Vice-Chancellor on this occasion and he directed me to see the Hon'ble Justice Sir Ashutosh Mookerjee. I forget what position he holds in this matter, but I think he is the controlling authority as regards the gentlemen who control the messes in Calcutta. I have not been able to see Sir Ashutosh, but I have the students in my house, and I have observed them most minutely; what they do is not only that they include in their school studies literature of the most objectionable kind, but utterly neglect their legitimate studies. And unless students of this class are kept under proper guidance and surveillance, I am very sure every one here will agree with me they will very soon go astray. They imbibe ideas—I have talked with them—which are extremely reprehensible, not because these students are naturally vicious but because they are not kept under proper check and control. My own idea is that one of the best ways of keeping them under proper control is to put them into well-equipped, well-managed, well-kept boarding institutions. I have seen myself what wonders a good boarding institution can work in any area where the people have got a genuine demand for education. I am reminded at this moment of the good work which has been achieved by the Bell-Islamia boarding-house in my own town in Barisal which was established in 1896. The number of Muhammadan students in the three schools was not more than seventy. I do not know what the number now is, but last year, if my memory serves me right, the number was more than doubled, and not only in numbers has this good result been seen, but marked improvement has been discernible in the character and quality of the young men who are turned out of this boarding institution. I can say that they are a distinctly superior lot to the young men whom I met in times when the boarding institution did not exist. This is nothing new in Barisal; the same thing has happened in places where boarding-houses have been established, and it is for this reason that whenever an opportunity has occurred I have raised my voice, however feeble, in favour of boarding institutions.

To come back to the resolution which I put before this Council. I think that if there is no possibility or likelihood of Government arriving

[*Maulvi A. K. Faz-ul-Haq ; Chaudhuri Muhammad Ismail Khan ; Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur.*]

at a speedy decision in this matter, if the financial difficulties in the way of Government are such as we cannot have either the College or the boarding institution at once, my suggestion is that a good house be hired in Calcutta ; and if we cannot have the college, let us by any means have the boarding institution. I was reading in the *Statesman* the other day a notice that had been circulated by the Principal of the Presidency College, and I wondered that no less than 51 boys had been refused admission in the Intermediate class, and 43 boys in the B.A. class of the Presidency College. This is the story so far as the Presidency College is concerned, and though I have not got the statistics at my command, I dare say the figures will be found appalling so far as other colleges are concerned. We can, therefore, safely conclude that between the B.A. and I.A. classes no less than 300 to 400 boys are refused admission in the colleges in Calcutta. I do not think that we Muhammadans can afford to allow so many boys to go back simply because they cannot be accommodated in any educational institution. There was a time when the cry was that the Muhammadans did not avail themselves of the facilities which Government had provided for them. That was true ; but now that we are going forward, I respectfully pray the Government that not only should the doors be flung open wide, but the break should not be placed on what seems to be the desire of the Muhammadan community to take the fullest opportunity of the educational institutions.

Sir, I do not wish to take up the time of the Council. I quite recognize that the authorities themselves are trying to do their best in the matter, but my object in placing this resolution before the Council is only to draw attention to our pressing necessities, and I hope this resolution will commend itself to the Council."

The Hon'ble CHAUDHURI MUHAMMAD ISMAIL KHAN said :—

"Sir, in these days, when our notice is constantly brought to the difficulty which students experience in getting themselves admitted into colleges, it is no wonder that the Muhammadan students, whose numbers are increasing year by year and who are proverbially poorer than the students of other communities, should find it almost impossible to prosecute their studies if no further provision is made for their collegiate education in this regard. My hon'ble friend is very earnest about this question. It cannot but be so. My community urgently wants it and my hon'ble friend is the spokesman of the community in this Council. What he asks for in this resolution is not too much. His request is very modest and reasonable, nay, it is an advice of caution. He does not want Government to begin this matter with a very large initial expenditure in the matter of the construction of college buildings and hostel, but he wants to proceed in this matter slowly, humbly and cautiously. By this means, we shall gain experience and see what manner of buildings will be required for the intended college and attached hostel and what will be their net cost. We need not be in a hurry about the buildings required for this purpose. In Calcutta there would be no lack of proper hired houses for this purpose. What we want urgently is an institution of the kind proposed in the resolution. I think there would be no dissentient voice in this Council about this matter. I heartily support the resolution just now moved by my hon'ble friend Maulvi A. K. Faz-ul-Haq."

The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR said :—

"I have listened with very great interest to the moving and eloquent speech of my friend, Maulvi Faz-ul-Haq. I am in full sympathy with the noble aspirations of our Muhammadan fellow-subjects. Sir, they were lagging behind, and they are now progressing, and they want to take full advantage of the benefits of education under the aegis of British rule. Sir, as far as I have been able to follow and to understand the resolution that

[*Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur ; Nawab Saiyid, Nawab Ali Chaudhuri.*]

has been moved, there are two proposals embodied in the resolution : one is the establishment of a well-equipped Arts College for the Muhammadan students, and the other a boarding-house for the Muhammadan students. Well, Sir, with regard to the first proposal to have a well-equipped Arts College for Muhammadans, I have not been able to quite understand whether it is intended that the Arts College should be solely for the Muhammadans only, and that no student of any other denomination shall be admitted to it. In my humble opinion, Sir, such a consummation is not to be wished for, because in many of the schools and colleges in Calcutta Hindus and Muhammadans receive their education side by side. This is a healthy thing which brings about a feeling of unity and brotherhood, and a feeling of greater friendship and fellowship which is good for the well-being of society. I admit, Sir, that there is a paucity of colleges in Calcutta, having regard to the large number of students that are turned away every year from the University. This difficulty is experienced not only by Muhammadan students but also by Hindu students, and I believe no one is more aware of the fact than my learned friend on my right, the present Vice-Chancellor of the Calcutta University. Sir, every year when the results of the examinations are out, we are besieged by our friends, relatives and acquaintances belonging to the middle classes, asking for recommendations to this college and that college for admission of their boys. Well, Sir, what we find is this : that having regard to the restrictions and limitations imposed by the Calcutta University on our colleges, they are obliged to refuse numbers of applications and a number of young men are therefore denied the benefits of higher education. I personally approached the late Vice-Chancellor, and have had more than one opportunity of speaking to the present Vice-Chancellor of the University, and so far as I can understand, both of them say that more colleges are wanted in Calcutta. I think, therefore, Sir, that the proposal for the establishment of an additional or more colleges in and about Calcutta is necessary for both the Hindu and Muhammadan communities.

As regards the boarding-houses, I think that the establishment of boarding-houses has done great good to the community to which I belong, and it is natural for the Muhammadan community to ask for boarding-houses for their students, because students can be kept under control and can be taken much better care of in boarding-houses than those who live outside and lack such guidance and control. Moreover, the parents of these boys appreciate an arrangement by which their sons are brought up within an environment which keeps them away from all outside evil influences. I am sure, having regard to the sympathetic attitude of Government to the rising generation, that the request made for the establishment of boarding-houses will meet with the attention of Government, and that at no distant date suitable boarding-houses will be established for the Muhammadan students in and about Calcutta. I have nothing more to say, but only to give my general support to the noble aspirations of my Muhammadan fellow-citizens."

The Hon'ble NAWAB SAIYID, NAWAB ALI CHAUDHURI, KHAN BAHADUR, said :—

"My hon'ble friend, Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur, objects to an educational institution for Muhammadans, but I may mention here that there is already an institution in Calcutta which is purely intended for the Hindu community. There was the Madrasa college for Muhammadan students, but as there was no great demand in those days for that college, the Madrasa was amalgamated with the Presidency college, but now as there is a great demand for higher education amongst Muhammadans and the Presidency College cannot satisfy this demand, it is intended to start a college for Muhammadans only. With these words, I beg to support the resolution of my hon'ble friend Maulvi Faz-ul-Haq."

[*Mr. Hornell.*]

The Hon'ble MR. HORNELL said :—

" Mr. Vice-President,—The terms of the resolution are—

'This Council recommends to the Governor in Council that, pending the permanent establishment of the Muhammadan Arts College in Calcutta, a well-equipped Arts College, with a boarding-house attached, be at once opened for Muhammadans in suitable hired houses in Calcutta.'

" I mention this, because the resolution is couched in very specific and clear language. We are not therefore, I take it, discussing the question, whether there should be a Muhammadan Arts College, nor are we, in the terms of the resolution, considering the question, whether there should be additional provision for boarding-houses for Muhammadan students apart from the question of a Muhammadan college.

It is little more than a year ago since I first took up the question of the establishment—or more correctly the re-establishment—of a Muhammadan Arts College in Calcutta. From the first I had been strongly impressed by the desirability of the scheme and anxious to make a start as soon as possible, not because of any very immediate need, but because it seemed to me that the day was not far off, if it is not already with us, when the Muhammadan community would have attained a stage of educational development at which they might reasonably ask for the restoration of the Arts College which once existed for them in Calcutta.

A great deal has been said of late about the difficulty of students, experienced by students, especially Muhammadan students, in finding accommodation within the colleges in Calcutta specially and in Bengal generally. In order to find out exactly how this matter stood Government instructed the Assistant Director of Muhammadan Education to make enquiries of every Muhammadan student who passed the Matriculation examination last year. The facts as disclosed are somewhat as follows : 524 boys passed and we have already received replies from 486 of them. Of these 399 had joined and 87 had given up their studies. One hundred and forty-one boys first failed to secure admission into the colleges, but they all subsequently found accommodation in other colleges.

I think that the Hon'ble Mr. Haq has hit upon a very real difficulty when he refers to the difficulty of Muhammadans obtaining suitable accommodation in Calcutta. To this point I shall revert. To go back to the Muhammadan Arts College scheme—before working out a permanent scheme at all, the question whether temporary arrangements for opening the college classes at an earlier date could not be made was thoroughly investigated. It was decided to abandon the attempt to start the college classes on a temporary and provisional basis in makeshift quarters, because it was thought that it would not be giving the institution a fair chance to inaugurate it under such conditions. Having arrived at this conclusion, my office set itself to concentrate all its energies on a complete and permanent scheme. The result is that a complete scheme is now before Government. Government have expressed themselves generally in favour of the scheme and are in process of acquiring a piece of vacant land in the neighbourhood of Wellesley Square, the possession of which will facilitate the carrying of the scheme into actual effect ; but the establishment of the college cannot yet be regarded as an accomplished fact. In the first place, it is impossible with the funds at present at the disposal of the Education Department to find either the recurring or the capital cost ; the Local Government will have to go to the Government of India and ask for their special help. Exactly how much, if anything, the Local Government could afford to spend on the maintenance of an additional Arts College in Calcutta I cannot say, but I ask whether it would be sound practical politics to go to the Government of India and ask for money for a really efficient Muhammadan college in Calcutta when we have already

started such an institution on temporary and provisional lines. They would probably suggest that having started the college the Local Government might well let it go on under temporary and provisional conditions, until they could afford to develop it from their own resources. But the Muhammadans may perhaps say that 'one bird in the hand is worth a good many birds in the neighbouring bushes'! Granted ; but have you got your bird in the hand, or are you likely to get him ? It is not a very easy matter to provide suitable housing accommodation in Calcutta for 300 to 400 boys. I can assure you it is extremely difficult to find any houses at all. I am not speaking altogether without knowledge. I must confess that I regard it as practically impossible to house a college of the size contemplated at all decently in hired buildings in any central part of Calcutta. It might be possible to house it on the outskirts of Calcutta, but would not a college on the outskirts start with a very handicap ? Then, again, there is the question of cost. A reasonable number of decent houses could not be hired for nothing. I put down Rs. 1,000 to Rs. 1,200 a month as the very minimum. We have asked Government to provide an Arts College at a very considerable cost, both initial and recurring. What we are now asking for is practically that this scheme should be supplemented by a further scheme of starting a college as soon as possible, and this supplementary scheme will cost not merely all the recurring charges which will be necessary for the upkeep of the college ; it will involve also the annual payment of a considerable sum of money for rent. I am not in a position to say whether Government would or would not be prepared to accept such a scheme. If the permanent scheme is found to be impossible of fulfilment within a reasonable time, then we should be faced by a position which might call for further consideration but as Director of Public Instruction, as one exceedingly interested in the success of this proposal, I would most strongly urge that this suggestion be not pressed too far, because I feel that the start of the college under conditions such as those which the Mover of the Resolution has in view will not be giving it a fair chance.

I said at the beginning that we were not discussing the question, whether an additional boarding-house for Muhammadan students in Calcutta is desirable. I take it that, if the difficulty is mainly one of boarding accommodation, Government would be quite prepared to see whether some practical scheme for providing additional boarding accommodation in Calcutta for Muhammadan students could not be worked out, and I would in this connection remind the Council that we have a somewhat belated scheme, which is slowly going forward, for extending the accommodation already available at the Baker Hostel."

The Hon'ble Dr. DEBA PRASAD SARBADHIKARI said :—

"I would not have liked to have intervened in this debate, but for the pointed personal references that have been made by two Hon'ble Members. Before I answer this point, I should like to clear up the ground regarding the points raised by the Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur. I am afraid it would be too late for me to go back on the scheme. I have been closely looking round this sparsely-attended meeting. I do not think that there is one present in this Council who was present when I raised the question many years ago of the necessity of reviving the old Madrasa College classes, in the interests of Muhammadan education, of which I had to constitute myself the champion and the special standing counsel long before any of our Muhammadan friends here to-day could take up the cause. A mixed college has no doubt its advantages, from the point of view of the community which is wanting all the education that it wants and should, as a part of such education, have plentiful opportunities of coming in contact with others. If, however, it be established that no mixed college will

[*Dr. D. P. Sarbadhikari.*]

accommodate all that need accommodation it would be almost entitled to have a college of its own if sufficient numbers are forthcoming. There cannot be the least doubt that the Muhammadan community has now attained that stage. The congestion is so great that we want not one but many colleges and the Muhammadans may have a college of their own so that the other colleges also may be relieved. But, Sir, in this connection I think it ought to be even now an open question as to whether the college need necessarily be in a congested central part of Calcutta in preference to what at one time was thought would be the ideal thing in connection with the Presidency College. I cannot understand why those who were so very keen about the removal of the Presidency College from the site where it had grown to an ideal spot away from tram traffic and other noises of civilised cities, I cannot imagine why advanced educationalists of that school should not, now that we are almost promised a new college for Muhammadans, work up to that ideal, particularly as residential accommodation of the necessary type is going to be provided.

Later on I shall very briefly refer to the want of accommodation in our colleges, but I may say this that, so far as Muhammadan students are concerned, my friends will find that there is really less room for grievance and complaint so far than the Hon'ble Mover of the resolution has made out. The Hon'ble the Director of Public Instruction has given you facts as regards last year; this year, on account of what appeared in the Press and what was said from the public platform where it was alleged that about 3,000 college students were going about from college to college and being refused admission, I caused very strict enquiries to be sent round to all the colleges to ask them what accommodation they had and how many they were obliged to reject. This applied to Hindus as well as Muhammadans. Reminders were also sent and we found that there are colleges in Bengal where seats are still available. Of course the fancy combinations of subjects which students would like to have in a college right at their front door were often impossible, but that is an ideal which I do not think that any Government or public body will ever be able to attain; but we are able yet to give a reasonable combination practically for all who desire to have them. The Registrar has again addressed the different colleges, and I made a statement in the Senate; but the response has not been adequate. Advertisements in the newspapers also inviting students to let the Registrar know their wants are being inserted and everything we can do to help students is being done. Whatever difficulty there may be in the case of some plucked students, I have heard of no serious difficulty in the case of new students. I do not think we have a right to assume that many new students are yet without accommodation. I admit there are some, and the chief difficulty with them is with regard to combination The difficulty in the case of plucked students is greater because their combinations are old, and they cannot very well at the end of the second year change it; and the Senate has devised a means which is giving appreciable relief, and that is to insist upon a man taking two out of three subjects in a college and exempting his attendance in regard to a subject in which he can get no lectures in his College, if he can produce a certificate of having received adequate instruction in that subject.

We may have to take other steps with regard to plucked students, but with regard to new students I do not think the difficulty is yet too great.

Reference was made to the difficulty of getting boarding-houses for Muhammadan students. The Hon'ble Mover of the resolution did approach me with regard to enlarged accommodation as he has told the Council, and I referred him to the Hon'ble Sir Ashutosh Mukerjee who is the President of the Residence Committee, for, since I assumed charge, it has been my endeavour to maintain the constitution in all its different aspects. We have asked the different Committees to go into different matters with the President of the Residence Committee that has to deal with the

[*Dr. D. P. Sarbadhikari ; Maulvi A. K. Faz-ul-Haq.*]

boarding and residence of students. The Hon'ble Mover of the resolution has himself admitted that he never went to the President, and I do not think, therefore, that he has a right to complain. If it came before us in due form, I am sure the University would have given him relief even with its very limited resources. It is all a question of payment ; all who want can get hostel accommodation of a sort if they pay for it. This is a matter with which the University cannot deal ; it is a matter for the Government. If the Government introduced so many free seats in hostels for the accommodation of poor Muhammadans that would be a matter for which we ought to be glad, but regarding which we have no voice. This question of poverty might be a standing difficulty in regard to all questions of advance of Muhammadan education. One Hon'ble Member was telling me that even if you provided all the Muhammadans hostel accommodation that is needed, most of the Muhammadan boys will not be able to pay for them. That is the real state of affairs, and I do not think we can devise any means which will remedy it unless free seats can be largely provided. However, there is no doubt, Sir, that there is a great need for boarding-houses for Muhammadan students in the neighbourhood of College Square. The Hon'ble the Director of Public Instruction must now have found out that the distance between the College Square and the recognised Muhammadan localities of Calcutta is really much more than he at first thought it to be. It is not a very easy thing for a Taltollah or a Kurraya boy to attend at College Square from early morn to dewy eve, with all the machinery that we are able to devise for their transport which unfortunately demands money at every turn, and if Muhammadan students are to do anything like justice to themselves, they must be accommodated somewhere in the neighbourhood of College Square or wherever that College may be. Although the mattter is not strictly before the Council, it rests with the Director of Public Instruction and he can take it up. I hope that steps will be taken to relieve the present situation. I am in full sympathy with the spirit of the resolution, and I wish it all success, but I am afraid, as things stand at present, we are not able to support his resolution."

The Hon'ble MAULVI A. K. FAZ-UL-HAQ said :—

"I would not have said anything further on this subject, but the sympathetic reply of the Director of Public Instruction and the sympathetic words of the Hon'ble the Vice-Chancellor compel me to say a few words of thanks. It was not in a spirit of complaint that I moved this resolution. The Vice-Chancellor has said that, so far as accommodation for those students is concerned, I had a talk with him and I have no reasons to complain because I never brought the matter to the notice of Justice Sir Ashutosh Mukherjee. In moving this resolution, I had no wish to indict the authorities with being at all lax in regard to the provision of accommodation for students. As I have already explained, my reason is to draw the attention once more to the urgency of the matter and also to emphasise the fact that the feeling in our community is very great that some sort of relief should be given, and I quite appreciate the justice of the remarks that a makeshift arrangement at the present moment might deprive us of what we may be happy to count upon as a real boon if we can hold our souls in patience. That may be true so far as the colleges are concerned, but so far as boarding institutions are concerned, I think that suitable boarding messes can be started in hired houses in Calcutta. However, if there is any difficulty, I do not wish to press this matter further. I would be quite content—and I say on behalf of my community that there would not be a word of complaint—if the authorities only urged upon the Government of India the very great urgency of arriving at a speedy decision in this matter. So far as the financial difficulties are concerned, if the needs

of the community are properly placed before the Government of India, they will come forward for our help with as much speed as possible, and I think the authorities will not be wanting in attention in this matter and, therefore, so far as this resolution is concerned, I commend it to their earnest attention and care. I only wish to say that I quite realise that it would not be very wise on our part to press this resolution if only the Director of Public Instruction will give us this assurance that he will give this matter his best consideration.

"The resolution was then, by leave of the President, withdrawn."

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 4.

The Hon'ble MAULVI A. K. FAZ-UL-HAQ moved the following resolution :—

This Council recommends to the Governor in Council that an Expert Committee be appointed to investigate the sanitary condition of Dacca City and to submit to Government a scheme for the improvement of the same.

He said :—

"Sir,—In moving this resolution I do not wish to pass any censure on the working of the Dacca Municipality, nor is it in a spirit of carping criticism that I bring forward this resolution for the consideration of this Council. I have lived in Dacca for several years, and it would have been extremely surprising if the present insanitary condition of a greater part of the Dacca town had not been prominently brought to my notice. I do not know if the European members of this Council have had any occasion to visit what we call old Dacca. If they have, they will sympathise with me when I say that of all the pressing questions that engage the attention of Government so far as this city is concerned, the most pressing one is the improvement of the sanitary condition of the city. There are not only narrow streets and lanes, but the means of communication are bad enough, and what is most objectionable is the unsatisfactory conservancy arrangements in the city. I find that in a recent issue of the *Herald*, which is the only authorised organ in Eastern Bengal, this point has been very ably and exhaustively treated. The editor has taken the trouble of pointing out specific instances in which the citizens of this historic city have got a just grievance as regards the conservancy arrangement. I think it is a matter of common knowledge and there will not be any difference of opinion. I do not wish to go into the specific instances. My recommendation at the present moment is this: that an Expert Committee of officials and non-officials be appointed to look into this matter, and after they have considered it in all its aspects and in the light of local experience, they will be able to submit to Government a scheme which will at once be acceptable to Government and also lead to the improvement of sanitary conditions of this city. With these few words I beg to commend my resolution to the acceptance of this Council."

The Hon'ble NAWAB SYED SHAMS-UL-HUDA said :—

"My friend wants an Expert Committee to investigate the sanitary conditions of Dacca and submit a scheme for its improvement. The insanitary condition of Dacca is notorious, and I do not think that we require an Expert Committee to tell us that. This matter of the improvement of the sanitary condition of Dacca has been under consideration for more than twenty years and numerous schemes have been formulated, and in one instance a penalty of Rs. 24,000 had to be paid to the contractor, because the scheme had to be abandoned. The latest scheme is one for the sewerage of the old town of

[*Nawab Syed Shams-ul-Huda ; Maulvi A. K. Faz-ul-Haq.*]

Dacca prepared by the Sanitary Engineer, Mr. Williams. It is a very comprehensive scheme, but it will cost about twenty-five lakhs of rupees. It was estimated at first to cost twenty-two lakhs, but it was found afterwards that we require a number of dumping-depôts and the cost will amount to about twenty-five lakhs, and from my own experience of these estimates I think that we should consider ourselves fortunate if we can manage with thirty lakhs. Besides the scheme of twenty-five lakhs, we require about five lakhs for the opening of inaccessible latrines. The Council will be surprised to hear that out of 13,000 latrines 4,000 are inaccessible and have never been cleared at any time. I do not know if you would come across such a state of things in any other town. There is also a partial scheme which will cost about nine lakhs and which will be confined to the island portion of the town. We had recently a conference in which the Chairman of the Municipality, the Vice-Chairman, the Commissioner of the Division, the Magistrate, myself and the Hon'ble Mr. Beatson Bell were present, and after a great deal of discussion we came to the conclusion that it would not be desirable to take up the partial scheme. The great drawback of the partial scheme is that we cannot do away with the tram service. We have, therefore, decided to try the whole scheme which will cost about thirty lakhs. If the Municipality is only able to raise a loan of five lakhs, Government will have to provide the remaining twenty-five lakhs. The matter is under consideration. The difficulty is that if twenty-five lakhs are given to Dacca alone, we will have, for some years—it may be for many—to starve all other projects in the whole of the Bengal Presidency. The matter requires very anxious consideration. Probably we could have come to a settlement at once if the Municipality could be induced to contribute a few lakhs more, and if the wealthy citizens of Dacca had come forward to help in the scheme. We find however that the utmost we can expect from the Municipality is only a loan of five lakhs. My friend will now realise that we are not suffering from want of advice. We want money and it is only a question of ways and means, and a committee at the present moment would be altogether unnecessary. We have got all the schemes ; the sewerage scheme has been approved by the Sanitary Board. There is also another scheme costing one lakh seventy-five thousand for additional water-supply. Administrative sanction will soon be accorded to it. The sewerage scheme is a very large one and in fact the only scheme which will improve the sanitary condition of Dacca. As I have said, it is a question of money and not of a committee."

The Hon'ble MAULVI A. K. FAZ-UL-HAQ said :—

"Sir, after the pronouncement of the Hon'ble Member in charge, it seems to me that the resolution should not have been worded as it is, but should have been an appeal for the collection of subscriptions. I think that would have been more appropriate. The difficulty is only with regard to the ways and means. If it were only a question of money, I do not think I would have brought forward this resolution. But I can say this that so far as certain portions of the town of Dacca are concerned, the Municipality itself has got ample funds at its disposal, and I thought that the attention of the authorities should be drawn to a question of such importance. However, I do not wish to waste the time of the Council if the scheme is already before Government, and if Government do not think that a committee like this can be of any help to it. So far as the schemes are concerned, I do not think there will be any purpose served in pressing this resolution further, because as it is now worded I do not think I can ask for something for which I cannot make out a case. With these words I beg to withdraw the resolution."

The resolution was then, by leave of the President, withdrawn.

[*Nawab Saiyid Nawab Ali Chaudhuri.*]

LIST OF BUSINESS.—ITEM No. 5.

The Hon'ble NAWAB SAIYID NAWAB ALI CHAUDHURI, KHAN BAHADUR, moved the following Resolution :—

"This Council recommends to the Governor in Council that one session of the Bengal Legislative Council be held every year at Dacca."

He said :—

"I do not think I could better signalise the first meeting of the Bengal Legislative Council in the second capital of the Presidency than by bringing forward a motion which seeks to make such meetings an annual event. It is, indeed, an irony of fate that it should have become necessary for Dacca to plead her cause here to-day, and press for the recognition of some of her indefeasible rights as the second capital of the Presidency of Bengal—rights which have been solemnly assured her by the highest authorities here and in England—rights which again have been sought to be ignored in certain quarters. I shall draw a veil over the recent past—the brief spell of glory which, in our ignorance, we thought to be a heritage that had come back to old Dacca to revitalise her, but which, alas! was destined to vanish too soon. We will not mourn over days that are irrevocably gone, but should be thankful for whatever small gifts we have been promised to console ourselves with. And it is one of these pledges, which were made only two years back on an historical occasion to the people of Eastern Bengal, that we desire to see carried out in all its essential particulars.

Some time has no doubt elapsed since those memorable despatches were penned in Simla and in Whitehall; but, Sir, I am optimistic enough to believe that words used and sentiments expressed therein have lost none of their sincerity and logical significance to-day. If we turn to these documents that passed between the Government of India and the Secretary of State on the question of the territorial redistributions, there is left no room for so much as a shadow of doubt that the maintenance of the importance of Dacca as the capital of Eastern Bengal was laid down as the *sine qua non* of the administrative rearrangements. As the Secretary of State acknowledges, in referring to the state of things that prevailed before the creation of the province of Eastern Bengal and Assam, 'it is certain that the provincial centre of gravity was unduly diverted to the western portion of the area, and to Calcutta itself, with the result that the Muhammadan community of Eastern Bengal were unintentionally deprived of an adequate share of consideration and attention.' Sir, it was this deplorable negligence of Eastern Bengal that necessitated the territorial changes brought about by Lord Curzon. And it was to prevent a relapse of Eastern Bengal into the shadow of cold neglect—'to avoid slipping back into the unfortunate state of things before the partition,' as Lord Crewe put it in the House of Lords—that the Government of India and the Secretary of State felt called upon to confer on Dacca the status of a second capital. The Secretary of State in his despatch says: 'I attach no little importance to the proposal that the Governor of Bengal should regard Dacca as his second capital, with full claims on his regular attention, and his residence for an appreciable part of the year. The arrangements which have been made there for the administration of the existing Lieutenant-Governor will thus not merely be utilized, but will serve a valuable purpose which it would have been difficult to secure had proposals similar to those which you now make been put forward when the whole of Bengal was undivided. In these circumstances I consider that you are right not to make any suggestion for a Commissionership at Dacca analogous to that existing in Sind in the Presidency of Bombay.'

I respectfully invite your attention, Sir, to the last two sentences in this statement which go to show that the Governor's connection with Dacca is to be of a close and living character such as could not, at any time, make us regret that the other alternative of a Special Commissioner at Dacca did not find favour with the authorities.

[*Nawab Saiyid Nawab Ali Chaudhuri.*]

Turning now to the debate that was raised on this question in the House of Lords by Lord Curzon, we find that the *ex*-Viceroy emphasised on the continuance of Dacca as a real second capital of Bengal. 'There is a strong feeling in India,' said his Lordship, 'that it will be well to place some statutory obligation upon the Governor of Bengal to spend a certain amount of the year at Dacca. I do not give an opinion on that point,' continued his Lordship, 'but I do say we ought to instruct him to spend at least two months in the year in Dacca, and if possible to take with him the Council and the whole machinery of Government.' In reply to this statement, Lord Crewe said: 'I am certain that both the new Governor of Bengal and the Viceroy, with whom he will no doubt discuss the question, will be convinced that it will be necessary, in order to hold the proper balance between the different parts of the province, and to avoid slipping back into the unfortunate state of things before the partition, to spend a certain part of the year at that place.' Among the noble Lords who followed the Secretary of State, Lord Macdonald went a little further and cited the annual migration of the Government of Bombay to Poona and of the Government of the United Provinces to Lucknow as instances in point.

Sir, it is one of our sorest grievances that there has been no statutory recognition of Dacca as the second capital of Bengal. But in view of repeated assurances in the highest quarters, and declaration of policy such as was made by His Excellency in his first speech at Dacca, we think we are right in saying that the position of Dacca is none the less secure.

On the occasion of his visit to Dacca in January 1912, His Excellency Lord Hardinge was approached among others by the People's Association with a prayer that the position and importance of Dacca might be made secure, as recommended in the memorable despatches. In reply, His Excellency said, 'Your new Governor is a man of broad sympathies who will give a ready ear to your prayers, and to him I shall commend the special care of the Eastern districts of his new province.' And, Sir, we know His Excellency the Viceroy could not have commended the welfare of Eastern Bengal to better hands.

In the message of sympathy and hope that His Excellency Lord Carmichael himself delivered to the people of Dacca, His Lordship declared thus: 'You may take it that the very fact that no term has been laid down implies in the minds of the Secretary of State and of the Government an honourable understanding that your city is to be in every sense a real second capital, and that the Government will spend a substantial part of each year here.' Noble words these—which still ring in our ears. But, Sir, to our misfortune jarring notes have since been struck on occasions in some quarters. And the climax was reached in this respect when, at the last meeting of this Council in Calcutta, His Excellency made almost an apology to our honourable colleagues in announcing this short meeting in his second capital—which, His Lordship took care to explain, was not to be taken as creating a precedent in favour of Dacca, but was only in the nature of an experiment. I confess that it has been a surprise to me that, after the pronouncement, the attendance to-day is even what we find it to be. I do not for a moment suggest that His Excellency has changed towards Dacca since his first visit here when those memorable words were uttered, or that His Lordship can forget the significance of that promise. Can it be, Sir, that the connotation of a second capital has been puzzling our wise administrators? If that be the case, I venture to think that we have not really to go far afield for the true import of this term. The despatches, the debates in the House of Lords and His Excellency's own assurances have always left an impression in our minds that this old city is to be made 'in every sense a real second capital,' such as Lucknow and Poona are. Indeed, there have been specific references to Lucknow as the type of the second capital to which Dacca would approximate. But, Sir, this analogy would be lacking in one of the most essential features, if a regular session of the Legislative Council is not held at Dacca every year.

Some of our frends in the Press and elsewhere have taken exception to a 'peripatetic Council.' I have no idea as to what their attitude would be

[*Nawab Saiyid Nawab Ali Chaudhuri.*]

if there was a Darjeeling session of the Council every year. As a matter of fact, feeling a desire for a Darjeeling sitting, some of our honourable friends petitioned His Excellency for the same, which shows that there is not so much objection to a peripatetic Council as such, as one might be led to infer from the absence of some of our friends here to-day. It is certain, at any rate, that Bengal would not be very singular if Council meetings were held in her second capital. We have only to turn our eyes to Simla, Lucknow and Poona to be convinced of this. What, then, Sir, may I respectfully ask, stands in the way of this city being elevated to the position of a 'real second capital,' where the Government will not only spend an 'appreciable part of the year,' but will be accompanied by 'the Council and the whole machinery of Government,' to use again the words of our *ex*-Viceroy? Are we to be told that Government is best able during its stay at Dacca to study the needs of the people of the Eastern portions of Bengal altogether unaided by their chosen representatives? Whatever others may think about the utility of such meetings, we venture to observe that the Legislative Council is not an absolute superfluity at Dacca. It is, indeed, the Council which confers on a Government an air of reality and enhances its usefulness.

It may be very good for Dacca to have the seat of Government here for a couple of months in the year, even though the constituted advisers of Government are not privileged to meet in Council in this city. But to call it the second capital of Bengal would involve a terminological inexactitude with which we are loth to associate His Excellency.

Apart from any consideration of profit to Dacca or Eastern Bengal, which may not have any weight with some of us—what would not the popular representatives gain by being for a few days in the year in touch with a mufassal city where all the current problems of administration—either in the domain of education, sanitation or local self-government—press for solution and can be studied at first hand? The place of a councillor has its responsibilities quite as much as its privileges, and the occasions when sacrifice is called for are not few in the lifetime of a patriot. I appeal, therefore, to the patriotism and sense of responsibility of my Indian colleagues to listen to the call of duty which sounds clear, and to cheerfully make some little sacrifice at its altar when such sacrifice is needed in the service of our country of which we are so justly proud. I appeal to my brethren not to spurn away the modest, though genuine, welcome and hospitality which Dacca can offer, but to grasp the hand held out by her in love and comradeship; if we unite to make Dacca a real, living and worthy second capital of Bengal, we will, I am sure, never have any reason to regret whatever little sacrifice we may have to make individually.

Sir, great expectations were roused in the minds of the Muhammadan community of Eastern Bengal by various acts and assurances of Government. I will not pretend to say that all, or even most of them, have been realized. When the hour of sacrifice came, they made the sacrifice demanded of them; for the Moslems of Eastern Bengal know how to make sacrifice. They never complained but accepted the inevitable. The Moslems of Eastern Bengal never complain even if their King's decree is hard.

Lord Crewe, from his place in the House of Lords, complimented the Muhammadan community of Eastern Bengal on the 'remarkable sense and remarkable self-restraint' shown by them in the way in which they took the re-partition of Bengal.

Our Hindu friends welcomed this re-partition as they were opposed to the redistributions as carried out by Lord Curzon; but there is happily not even a breath of difference now between the two great communities of Eastern Bengal as regards the question of the maintenance of the just importance of Dacca. The Hindus and the Moslems of Eastern Bengal stand to-day united in their present demand.

Sir, is it then too much for us to expect that the Government will be pleased to make this city the *de facto* second capital of Bengal,—'in every sense a real second capital,'—and have one session of the Council here every year?"

[*Maulvi A. K. Faz-ul-Haq.*]

The Hon'ble MAULVI A. K. FAZ-UL-HAQ said :—

"I was expecting some of our friends from the western part of the Presidency to say something on this resolution which I thought would easily have landed us in the region of controversy. I was not aware whether they welcomed this resolution, but after having given the resolution my best consideration, I can find that the opposition to it, if there is any room for any opposition at all, ought to come from the non-official members of this Council. So far as the officials are concerned, I may take it that, unless the arrangements are materially changed in future, most of the officials, who are members of the Council, will spend some time at any rate in Dacca, and the meeting of the Council could be so arranged as to coincide with their presence in this city. It is for this reason that I say that, if there are any objections to the holding of the Council session, the objection is likely to come from the non-officials, and, broadly speaking, the non-officials could be divided into two distinct divisions—one from the Eastern Bengal districts and the other from the western part of this Presidency. I may mention one or two facts in order that Hon'ble Members may come to a decision on the issues that have been raised by this resolution. In 1913 there was a desire on the part of several Hon'ble Members to have a session of the Legislative Council at Darjeeling, and a petition was submitted to His Excellency, to which all the Hon'ble Members who happened to be present at that meeting put their signatures praying for a session of the Legislative Council at Darjeeling. Immediately after that fact became known, those of us who belonged to the Eastern Bengal districts were reminded by our friends in Dacca and elsewhere that we had neglected the claims of Eastern Bengal. I confess, Sir, that I was one of the signatories. But, after I had signed, I wrote back to my friend, saying that I think that I really advocated a session of the Council at Darjeeling, but that did not prevent me from supporting any proposal, if there was any such proposal coming forward, for having a session of the Council at Dacca. I may without any breach of confidence tell the Council that several of the Western Bengal members also expressed themselves in sympathy with the Dacca session, and, if my memory serves me right, the Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Banerji promised that, when the question of the advisability of having a session at Dacca came up, he would give it his best support. This year, when His Excellency announced an intention of having this session at Dacca, the Hon'ble Nawab Bahadur and several other prominent residents of Dacca (amongst others Babu Ananda Chandra Roy) wrote to all the members resident outside Dacca that they would try their best to extend whatever hospitality this city could afford to those Hon'ble Members who would care to attend this session at Dacca. I take it that the Hon'ble Nawab Bahadur, Babu Ananda Chandra Roy and other leading citizens of Dacca were very anxious that this Council should be well-attended, because His Excellency had said that this would be regarded as in the shape of an experiment, and they naturally concluded that the future of having a session at Dacca would depend on the success of the present sitting at Dacca. I sincerely hope that His Excellency the Governor will not base his decision on the poor attendance which I see in this Council to-day; because, although non-official members have not turned up in large numbers, I have reason to believe that a large number of them would certainly have come but for certain unforeseen circumstances.

I do not think that I need take up the time of this Council by going into the minute details, but I may mention that several Hon'ble Members have written to the leading citizens of the Council explaining the reasons for their absence from the sitting of the Council to-day. The last telegram received from the Hon'ble Mr. Banerji was to the effect that he had some urgent piece of business of his own, and that his solicitors did not advise him to leave Calcutta at the present moment. Other gentlemen, except the Maharaja of Burdwan, have written to say that either they are ill or they have got some important private business which prevents them from coming; otherwise they would

certainly have come. We give them credit for all this sympathy, as they have all in their messages wished for the success of to-day's sitting at Dacca. From the letters they have written and the telegrams they have sent, not one of them seems to object to the sitting of the Council at Dacca. I take it therefore that so far as non-official members are concerned—the Eastern Bengal members are certainly in favour of it, and so far as the Western Bengal members are concerned they are not opposed to it, and unless for illness or other personal business—they would certainly have attended at Dacca. In these circumstances, I think that the resolution that has been brought forward by the Hon'ble Nawab Saiyid Nawab Ali Chaudhuri deserves the whole-hearted support of this Council."

The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR said :—

"Sir, I have listened with very great interest to the able and moderate speech which my friend has made to the Council, recommending that one of the sessions of the Council be held every year at Dacca. In moving his resolution, the Hon'ble Member referred to the past controversy with which was associated a bitterness of feeling between the Hindus and Muhammadans. His words, that the Hindus and Muhammadans stand united to-day, is heartily reciprocated by the community to which I belong, and I wish that the effect of these noble words will have taken away the differences arising from the controversies of the past which we all like to forget and he would have done well if he had refrained from dwelling on them. Sir, his proposal that one session of the Legislative Council be held every year in Dacca, if examined critically, will be found to be based largely on sentiment—sentiment we respect and adore. Sir, I am sorry to see that my honourable friend has questioned the importance of Calcutta. Calcutta does not belong to Western Bengal only. Calcutta belongs to Western and Eastern Bengal alike. Look at Calcutta—it occupies the foremost position in Bengal. I do not object to an occasional meeting at Dacca, but I would be the first, and I believe every member of the Council who is interested in the welfare of the province will be the first, to oppose any important measure being taken up for consideration at a Council meeting at Dacca. I think, Sir, that although many of us would not object to holding meetings at Dacca from time to time, we would certainly object to a whole session being held at Dacca. No doubt the Hon'ble Mr. Haq represents Eastern Bengal, and he also represents the Muhammadan community, but I would ask him, how would he like it if he were detained here for three months at a stretch, having to give up his lucrative practice and be kept away from the succulent pastures of the High Court. He has spoken eloquently about holding a session at Dacca, but I am sure he will be one of the first of the absentees. Sir, as I have said before, there might have been differences between the Hindus and Muhammadans during the last few years, but the Hindus are now prepared to do anything to meet the wishes of the Muhammadan community; but I ask them whether it would be wise to hold meetings away from the capital of the premier Presidency in India and away from the light of public criticism. How would it be if the Calcutta Municipal Bill is taken up, discussed and passed at Dacca, the capital of Eastern Bengal? I am sure, my honourable friend will sympathise with me. I therefore think that it is a large order to recommend that a whole session of the Council should be held here."

The Hon'ble NAWAB SYED SHAMS-UL-HUDA said :—

"Sir, I dare say that my honourable friend regrets as much as I do that this resolution could not be moved at a meeting of Council more largely attended by members from Western Bengal. The Western Bengal members are interested on the other side of the question, and any decision that may be arrived at in this Council will to a great extent be discounted by the fact of their absence. However, that is a matter for the mover of the resolution

[*Dr. Deba Prasad Sarbadhikari; The Vice-President.*]

to consider. I do not desire to enter into the controversy that has arisen between him and the Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur, but I would only state what the Government view of the matter is. So far as sympathy or mere willingness to hold a meeting of the Council at Dacca is concerned, the fact of this meeting to-day is ample demonstration of that. Government would not, however, pledge themselves definitely to hold a meeting of the Council every year in Dacca. Meetings of Council will be held wherever and whenever conditions of public business make it necessary or desirable, and Government do not intend to bind their discretion in this matter. As I have said, I do not wish to enter into the larger questions that have been raised, but I would say that the importance of the second capital depends on something more solid than the mere holding of a Legislative Council meeting here."

The Hon'ble DR. DEBA PRASAD SARBADHIKARI said :—

"Sir, after the statement made by the Hon'ble Nawab Syed Shams-ul-Huda, the merits of the question absolutely disappear. It is a matter essentially for the Government to decide, and I have not the least doubt that on future occasions Government will decide the matter from all points of view. But as a Calcutta business-man, who has no inconsiderable share in the succulent pasturage in the neighbourhood of the *maidan*, I wish entirely to disassociate myself from what has fallen from the Hon'ble Rai Bahadur Radha Charan Pal. I suppose there are succulent pastures all over the country, and leaders of the Bar from various districts and zamindars and merchants who have as much demands on their time make sacrifices for attending Council meetings when they are held either in Calcutta, Simla or at Delhi, and they do not complain. I wish that that narrow view just enunciated had not been taken. Whenever there is any demand on their time, members of the Council are expected ungrudgingly to give it, and sacrifices are needed by all who are on the Council. As regards the importance of Dacca being intensified by the holding of a meeting here, I quite agree with the Hon'ble Nawab that Dacca has other and higher claims to public attention which cannot be ignored. I can speak, for example, of her intense and keen educational interest, some of which I had the pleasure of witnessing since my arrival. Thousands of students and teachers whom I have met at Dacca and Narainganj are animated by noble ideals and ambitions which at any time will be a great asset for Dacca."

The VICE-PRESIDENT said :—

"Gentlemen, this is the first occasion on which the present Government has held a sitting of the Legislative Council at Dacca. I know that His Excellency Lord Carmichael looked forward to welcoming a considerable attendance of members, and we must all regret that circumstances of the most ominous and world-wide importance have contributed to deprive it of some of the dignity and consequence which we had hoped it might obtain.

You are all aware of the cataclysm which has befallen some of the leading nations of Europe, and of the intense anxiety which it has caused throughout the world. Already the dislocation of the ordinary methods of trade and business has caused considerable local anxiety in Calcutta, and measures of precaution may at any moment be required to deal with the situation. His Excellency the President has therefore considered it necessary to go to his capital without delay, and many of our members who were due here have been prevented from attending from the same causes. No one will therefore judge of the attitude of Government and of the majority of the Council towards the question of legislative sittings here by the exiguous attendance of to-day. These recent occurrences will have made you realize that in times of stress and crisis the overwhelming importance of Calcutta will still

[*Nawab Saiyid Nawab Ali Chaudhuri ; Maulvi A. K Faz-ul-Haq.*]

assert itself by the logic of hard fact. I trust that those members who have been able to come from a distance will have formed a favourable impression of the surroundings in which they find themselves, and I hope that in more fortunate times Dacca may see other meetings of the Council better attended and more accurately representing the importance in the Presidency of its second capital.

As regards formal official acceptance of the resolution, however, I can only remind you of the two points which have already been stated by the Hon'ble Nawab Syed Shams-ul-Huda—first, that the question of when and where the Council should meet is constitutionally reserved, not only in this body, but in others of greater age and still greater dignity, to the head of the Executive ; secondly, whatever the views of the present Government and whatever pledges they might be willing to give for their own action, nothing that they may decide on can bind their successors."

The Hon'ble NAWAB SAIYID NAWAB ALI CHAUDHURI, KHAN BAHADUR said :—

"Sir, my motion is not that Government should be bound down to hold a session every year at Dacca. But from what has fallen from you, Sir, I take it that the Government are willing to hold some meetings at Dacca. In view of this assurance, I do not desire to press this resolution."

The resolution was then, by leave of the Vice-President, withdrawn.

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 6.

The Hon'ble MAULVI A. K. FAZ-UL-HAQ moved the following Resolution :—

This Council recommends to the Governor in Council that early steps be taken to locate a few of the Government Departments permanently at Dacca.

He said :—

"Sir, whatever may be the merits of the resolution regarding a session at Dacca, I do not think that my present resolution can come under that category. It is admitted that Dacca is not only the second capital of this Presidency in theory only, but it is so in fact. In the despatch of the Government of India constituting this Presidency it was mentioned that the Government should spend some portion of the year at Dacca. I have not got a complete list with me, but I find from the list which I already possess that in the second capital of the United Provinces, that is, in Lucknow, there are permanently stationed the Department of Land Records, the offices of the Post-Master-General, the Inspector-General of Registration and the Sanitary Commissioner. Poona, the subsidiary capital of Bombay, holds as many as eight departments, and, if my memory serves me right, Lyallpur possesses two departments, and the subsidiary capital of Madras possesses four, and Moulmein, the subsidiary capital of Burmah, posseses at least one department. So it goes without saying that in all these places the Government recognize the importance of the second capital by locating some departments permanently, so that the heads of these departments may come in direct contact with the people when dealing with their work. I do not know what my Hon'ble friend Rai Priya Nath Mukharji Bahadur will think, but I think that his office, as well as the offices of the Director of Land Records and the Sanitary Commissioner, may be permanently located at Dacca. A question may arise as regards the severances of the heads of these departments almost permanently from Calcutta. What now happens is this, that all the departments are

[*Maulvi A. K. Faz-ul-Haq ; Mr. Beatson Bell.*]

located at Dacca for a couple of months in the year, without any inconvenience and if some of these departments are permanently located here they can, in the course of their tours, visit other parts of the Presidency. It is felt by the people of Eastern Bengal that the needs and requirements of the people could be better attended to if some of these departments are permanently located here. A question may be raised that while in other provinces the two capitals are joined by railway and that the communication between Calcutta and Dacca is very inconvenient. But that is a question that can be settled by Government if it is decided to have the departments permanently located here. I do not think any harm will be done. I do not think that from the officials there will be any objection to my proposal, and, so far as the non-officials are concerned, I think I can count upon a unanimous support. With these few words, I beg to commend this Resolution to the acceptance of the Council."

The Hon'ble Mr. BEATSON BELL said :—

"Sir,—Before I go further I would suggest that we should refer to this city as the eastern capital and to the more modern city (Calcutta) as the western capital of the Presidency. There is no invidious distinction in these two expressions.

Then, as regards the main point that is before us—to locate here permanently a few of the Government departments. I was in some doubt as to the exact significance of this phrase. We use the expression Goverment departments to indicate what I may call the slices of the Secretariat, *i.e.*, Appointment Department, the Revenue Department, the Financial Department, the Political Department, the General Department, and so on. I thought at first that possibly my hon'ble friend had these slices in mind, but from his speech I see that he is referring purely to the Executive heads of certain branches, with their assistants, clerks and menials. Even then the definition of 'Head of a Department' is by no means clear. I have looked up the definition in the Civil Service Regulations, and I find that it consists of two long lists with an addendum to the effect that anyone else is considered to be a Head of a Department whom the Local Government declares to be such. I think most of the Hon'ble Members will be rather surprised to find that the Board of Revenue, the Superintending Engineer, the District and Sessions Judges are all Heads of Departments. However, I think I am right in assuming that what the Hon'ble Member really wants is that some of the following officers should be located at Dacca, *viz.*, the Chief Engineers, the Inspector-General of Police, the Inspector-General of Civil Hospitals, the Inspector-General of Prisons, the Director of Public Instruction, the Commissioner of Excise, the Inspector-General of Registration, the Registrar of Co-operative Credit Societies, the Director of Land Records and the Director of Agriculture. Well, I may say at once that this question has been examined with much sympathy by the members of this Government. We all know the sympathy of Lord Carmichael towards the Eastern capital, and I may be permitted to say that you, Sir, were Collector of Bakarganj, the Hon'ble Mr. Lyon was Chief Secretary to the Government of Eastern Bengal, and my hon'ble friend Nawab Shams-ul-Huda was born in Eastern Bengal. As regards my own sympathy for Eastern Bengal, it is superfluous that I should say anything. But in spite of the sympathy, I may almost say the bias, in favour of Dacca with which we approached this question we have come to the unanimous decision that the proposal cannot, on practical grounds, be given effect to. We cannot locate any of the Departments at Dacca. First of all, you will readily realize that there is the question of expense. If, when the Capital was removed from here, it had been decided that the Secretariat buildings were to remain at the disposal of the Executive Government, the question of expense would not have arisen. But we are all

[*Mr. Beatson Bell.*]

glad that a University is going to be established here, and all these buildings are earmarked for the University. The residences now occupied by the Members of Government and the Secretaries will be given up to the University. The construction of new buildings to replace them is already under consideration. Therefore, if we start establishing Heads of Departments here permanently, we shall have to build still more residences and still more offices. Members will readily realize that the question of finance is a serious one in considering the problem before us, but if it were essential on administrative grounds to incur this expense, I am sure that somehow or other we would be able to find the money. But if we look on it from the administrative point of view we meet with still greater difficulties. I believe some people think that the function of the officers in question is merely to sit in a comfortable room, to dispose of a little routine correspondence, to interview candidates for appointments, and to distribute patronage with a very liberal hand. That is a very pleasing but a very fanciful picture. The Head of a Department, in addition to a vast amount of correspondence, has to be in constant touch with his subordinate officers, and with this end in view has to inspect the work of these officers as often as possible on the spot. Secondly, he must keep in touch with the members of the public who are interested in the work of the Department, and, thirdly, he must keep in touch with the Corresponding Department of the Secretariat and with the Member in charge of that Department. Lord Carmichael and his colleagues have examined all these cases in the light of these considerations, and have come to the conclusion that it would be most unwise to move any of these officers from Calcutta. Let us now take them in order—

In the first place, the Chief Engineers are not only heads of departments, but they are also Secretaries to Government, and, as such, they are inseparable from the Secretariat.

Then, we come to the Inspector-General of Police. I do not think it is seriously urged that the Inspector-General of Police, who has to look after the peace and order of the Province, should be at a distance from the Executive Government.

Then, as regards the Inspector-General of Civil Hospitals, we all know that all the large hospitals and medical institutions are in Calcutta, and, if he is not in Calcutta, he is divorced from the chief centre of his activity.

Similarly, with regard to the Inspector-General of Prisons. Most of the great jails are in and around Calcutta, and he can inspect a far greater number of them by living in Calcutta than he can by living in Dacca.

Then as regards the Director of Public Instruction. In spite of the eloquent words of the Vice-Chancellor as to the greatness of the educational interests in Dacca, even the Vice-Chancellor agrees that Calcutta is and will still remain the centre of education. This will be so even after the Dacca University is established. As regards the Commissioner of Excise, the consumption of exciseable articles in Calcutta is very much greater than in any other part of the Province. And not only so, but Calcutta is the chief port and exciseable articles come pouring in from steamers day after day, and it is most important that the Commissioner and his staff should see that smuggling does not go on in Calcutta. Coming to the Inspector-General of Registration, in spite of the fact that several other provinces have found it convenient to remove the Inspector-General into one of their outlying capitals, I do not think it should be so in Calcutta. The amount of registration in Calcutta is enormous. And not only so, but it has been proposed that we should establish in Calcutta something in the nature of Somerset House in England, a large storehouse where all documents will ultimately be collected. If this be done, we are considering it carefully, it would be most unreasonable to take away

[*Mr. Beatson Bell ; Maulvi A. K. Faz-ul-Haq.*]

the head of the department and to leave our Somerset House to take care of itself. Then we come to the Registrar of Co-operative Credit Societies. We considered the question of locating him outside Calcutta, in some place where co-operative societies are most numerous. At present in Faridpur there are more co-operative societies than in any other part of the Province, but this will not always be so. The Midnapore co-operative work is extending rapidly, and it is likely that Western Bengal will soon take widespread advantage of the co-operative movement, just as Eastern Bengal has done. Apart from all that, proposals are under consideration for the establishment of a provincial co-operative bank with its head-quarters in Calcutta. This bank will be under the control of the Registrar of Co-operative Societies, and this will take a very great part of the time of the Registrar. This alone will be sufficient reason for hesitating before we remove his head-quarters from Calcutta. Then we come to the Director of Land Records : we freely admit that just at present and for the past few years much could have been said for having the Director of Land Records at Dacca. Mr. Jack practically made his head-quarters in Dacca, and if I had been in his position, I should have done the same, but as you all know, the work in Dacca Division is approaching completion.

In a few years the centre of gravity in settlement work will be in Western Bengal ; that being so, I do not think the Hon'ble Member will press us to send the Director of Land Records for a few years only to Dacca. Lastly, we come to the Director of Agriculture. We may at once say that if he were purely and simply a Director of Agriculture we would move him to-morrow to Dacca. It stands to reason that pure agricultural work can be much better done in the country than in the town, and Dacca is peculiarly suitable for such work. We have got there the chief experimental farm with a fine laboratory and fine buildings, and a large expert staff on the spot. So far as agricultural work is concerned, Dacca would be the most suitable place for the Director of Agriculture, but unfortunately the Director of Agriculture is overweighted with a mass of work which is only indirectly connected with agriculture. I refer to all his statistical work and to the jute and other forecasts, which he has to publish. This takes up an enormous portion of his time, and in connection with this branch of his work he is practically tied to Calcutta ; he is at the beck and call—and it is right that he should be so—of the business communities of Calcutta, both Indian and European. That being so, although we look forward to the day when we shall get a separate officer to conduct the purely statistical work, and shall allow the Director of Agriculture to confine himself to his proper work of agriculture, yet that day is not yet come ; and until we can get a separate officer, I am afraid we must reluctantly say that it is not possible to have the Director of Agriculture placed at Dacca. I think I have shown that we have examined the question with great sympathy and have been very anxious to do something towards locating a few of the heads of departments here. I am very sorry that I of all people should have found it my duty to throw cold water on a motion with which I have so much sympathy. I agree in the unanimous conclusion of my colleagues that it is not practical to go any way towards accepting this resolution. If the Hon'ble Member is determined to carry this resolution to a division, I have only to say that we shall be glad to know the opinions of the non-official members of the Council. It is not the intention of the official Members to vote."

The Hon'ble MAULVI A. K. FAZ-UL-HAQ said :—

"Sir, it is certainly a question upon which I would have asked for a division, but I do not think it would be fair on my part, considering the attendance at the meeting, to ask for a division. I hoped that my friends from

[*Maulvi A. K. Faz-ul-Haq.*]

the western division of the Presidency would support me so far as this resolution is concerned, although they might have had some personal objection to the resolution of the Hon'ble Nawab Saiyid Nawab Ali Chaudhuri. I am afraid I shall ultimately have to withdraw the resolution. But there are one or two points in the Hon'ble Mr. Bell's lucid explanation which are far from convincing, if I may be pardoned for saying so. I do not mean to say that there are not almost insuperable difficulties in the way of locating some departments outside Calcutta. But at the same time it strikes me that there are one or two departments about which there does not seem to me to be very great difficulties. I did not know that this question had been discussed by the authorities, and I have no doubt that, if this question has been discussed, it has been discussed in a spirit of doing fair justice to Eastern Bengal. The claims of the Eastern districts are so great that, in spite of the adverse decision as the result no doubt of weighty reasons, I would still urge on the Government to consider these claims before they come to any final decision, because I believe that it is a question which can be re-opened, if not in this Council, at least by the officials themselves, because it is a matter which concerns the officials most so far as the Eastern districts are concerned. Let us cite, for instance, one or two departments which have been discussed by the Hon'ble Member—say, the office of the Inspector-General of Registration. Let us take the case of Bombay and Poona on the one hand and Calcutta and Dacca on the other. I think that, so far as Calcutta is concerned, the amount of registration work is not very much more than what it is in Bombay. And so far as the work of the Inspector-General of Registration is concerned, I do not think that the Inspector-General in Bombay has got his hands much lighter than the Inspector-General in Bengal. If, in spite of that, the Bombay Government could locate the office of the Inspector-General of Registration at Poona, I do not see what great difficulties can there be for the location of the office of the Inspector-General in Bengal at Dacca. Add to this the fact that the number of registration cases is far more numerous in Eastern Bengal districts than in the western division of the Presidency. In Eastern Bengal, people not only rush to the registration offices for the purpose of registration in cases where registration is absolutely necessary, but also in cases in which people in Western Bengal would not dream of going. For instance, *dakhilas*, which are given by the landlord to the tenant, are never registered in Western Bengal, but the tenant in Eastern Bengal, if he has the least reason to suspect his landlord, rushes to the registration office to have his *dakhila* registered. Then there are the Muhammadan registration offices. So far as statistics are concerned, in Western Bengal the registrar does not make more than 6 or 7 rupees a month. I speak from personal knowledge. I recommended a person for a marriage registrarship and after a time he wanted to give it up, for not only did he realize a very small income from registration, but he had to spend extra from his own pocket. I do not know whether such is the case anywhere else, but such is certainly the case in Eastern Bengal. These registrations are certainly an important part of the Inspector-General's duty, as he has to look after these Muhammadan registration offices. Ordinary registration is also more numerous in Eastern Bengal. I think, therefore, that if the Inspector-General spends a few more months at Dacca than he does at present, there would not be much dislocation of business.

Now let us take the case of the Registrar of Co-operative Credit Societies. I know that the co-operative work in Midnapore is getting heavier, but I think that it will take years and years before it makes great headway in Western Bengal. But in Eastern Bengal in Madaripur, etc., the work is already very great. And about the Provincial bank which is going to be started in Calcutta, I do not think that that bank should tie down the Registrar to Calcutta. He can control the work in the course of his tours. He can visit Calcutta if occasion so requires, but that is no reason why he

[*Maulvi A. K. Faz-ul-Haq; Nawab Saiyid, Nawab Ali Chaudhuri.*]

cannot spend a few more months at Dacca. The case was almost similar before the territorial redistribution.

In the case of the Inspector-General of Registration, I do not think he has got more to do, so far as Western Bengal is concerned, than the Inspector-General in the late Eastern Bengal Government had to do, so as far as Assam was concerned. Of course I am alluding to the Inspector-General's work in Western Bengal *minus* Calcutta. Calcutta is an exception. It appropriates and justly appropriates the time of the authorities. But I do not think why the work in Calcutta cannot be controlled from here or in the course of tours, so far as these two heads of departments are concerned. Sir, I do not wish to detain the Council any longer, but I will only say this, that in view of the very great importance of the subject, Government should not commit themselves one way or the other and if, for good cause shown, it becomes necessary later on to permanently locate some offices in Dacca, I sincerely hope that Government will reconsider their present decision. With these words, I beg to withdraw my resolution."

The Resolution was then, by leave of the Vice-President, withdrawn.

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 7.

The Hon'ble NAWAB SAIYID, NAWAB ALI CHAUDHURI, KHAN BAHADUR, moved the following Resolution :—

That this Council recommends to the Governor in Council that early steps be taken to provide adequate waterway for the District Board Road and Railway across the river Banar in the Jamalpur subdivision, in the Mymensingh district.

He said :—

"Sir, in reply to my interpellation on the 28th February last on the subject, the Hon'ble Mr. Finnimore was pleased to state that Government have made enquiries and that they were waiting for a reply from the Eastern Bengal State Railway authorities and the Superintending Engineer, Eastern Circle, on references made to them on the subject. Sir, full five months have elapsed since my interpellation, and the reply in question may have been received by this time.

It is already known to Government that the river Banar in the Jamalpur subdivision of the Mymensingh district has been blocked by the construction of a District Board Road and of the Narayanganj-Jagannathganj railway line, near its junction with the Brahmaputra. I can hardly exaggerate the terrible loss which the people of that quarter sustain when in the rainy season the river overflows, there being no channel for the passage of flood water. The crops of the neighbouring villages are totally destroyed, being submerged under water, thereby causing serious loss to the poor subjects who are deprived of their only means of livelihood. But their sufferings do not end here.

From also a sanitary point of view, the inhabitants of that quarter suffer severely. The whole area has become the hot-bed of malaria, which has become a serious menace to the health of the whole subdivision. They had petitioned Government on this subject stating all their grievances, but their petition has apparently not borne any fruit as yet.

The sooner the mouth of the river is set free the better for the poor inhabitants of adjacent villages both from economic and sanitary points of view. Moreover, if the mouth of the river is set free, people of that quarter will be better able to carry on trade communications with adjacent places.

[*Mr. Beatson Bell ; Maulvi A. K. Faz-ul-Haq.*]

Sir, this is a resolution of an absolutely non-controversial character, and as such I hope I can count upon the support of my hon'ble colleagues and Government."

The Hon'ble MR. BEATSON BELL said :—

"I may say that Government accepts this resolution. I agree with the Hon'ble Mover that it is of a non-controversial character. The Banar is a river which flows out of the old Brahmaputra and finds its way southwards, near the north end it is blocked by the District Board Road and the Railway, and further south it is blocked by a number of bunds constructed by the villagers. The result is that this causes serious injury to the sanitary conditions of the villages along its banks. The Collector, the District Engineer, the Superintending Engineer and the Commissioner (myself) all reported in favour of removing these obstructions, so that the river could be flushed. The local authorities had submitted an estimate for Rs. 4,517 to provide a bridge on the District Board Road and to remove the obstructions made by the villagers ; but it is obviously useless to carry out these works unless the Railway does its share by providing a bridge on this embankment. This railway project has been estimated to cost about Rs. 7,500.

It so happens that the line is owned by the I.G.S. Company and is only worked by the Eastern Bengal State Railway. The steamer company has referred the matter to the London Board. We are awaiting their final reply. I can assure the Hon'ble Member that when that reply is received—and I have great hopes that the steamer company will join with us in removing this obstruction—Government will take effective steps to see that whatever is necessary is done, and done promptly."

The Resolution was then put and agreed to.

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No.

The Hon'ble MAULVI A. K. FAZ-UL-HAQ moved—

That this Council recommends to the Governor in Council that the Government of Bengal do represent to the Government of India the urgency of connecting Barisal with Calcutta by rail.

He said :—

"I may say at once that I have been led to move this resolution from motives of local patriotism. I have myself experienced very great inconvenience in the matter of a journey from Barisal to Calcutta. Barisal is undoubtedly one of the most important towns in Eastern Bengal, and it is the most important rice-producing centre in Bengal. As early as 1913 I put a question in this Council, when Government were pleased to say that steps were being taken to connect Barisal and Calcutta by rail. I repeated this question in another form later, and favourable reception was given to it by Government. I do not know how far the project has advanced, but in order to point out the very great urgency of this matter I have moved this resolution.

With these few words, I beg to commend this Resolution to the acceptance of this Council."

The Hon'ble MR. BEATSON BELL said :—

"Sir, I have much pleasure in saying that Government have no objection in accepting this resolution. I may inform the Hon'ble Member that once a year this Government is called on by the Government of India to submit a report upon pending railway projects and to state which of these meet with the approval of this Government. In our report last year

[*Mr. Beatson Bell ; Babu Upendra Lal Roy.*]

we included the Barisal scheme as one of those which met with the approval of this Government. At that time the Barisal project which held the field was a narrow-gauge project. Since then I am glad to say that matters have advanced a good deal. Messrs. Gillanders, Arbuthnot & Co. applied to the Railway Board for a concession to construct not a narrow gauge line but a broad-gauge line to Barisal The proposal is that the line should be a continuation of the Calcutta-Khulna line. The Khulna line, as now proposed, will be carried right north to Madaripur and south to Barisal. This Government was asked for its opinion regarding this proposal, and on the 21st March this Government reported to the Government of India that the development of the railways in this area is in the opinion of the Governor in Council a matter of much importance, and that His Excellency accorded his cordial support to the application. Since then the detailed survey has been made by the Eastern Bengal State Railway and the estimates are under preparation. It has not yet been decided who will construct this line, but, if constructed, it will certainly be worked by the Eastern Bengal State Railway. We hope that the people of Barisal will soon get uninterrupted communication between Barisal and Calcutta. My colleagues and I discussed the subject a few days ago, and we are now drafting our annual report to the Government of India on the subject of railway projects.

I can assure my hon'ble friend that this broad-gauge railway from Khulna to Madaripur and Barisal will be placed on our list, and although it may not be at the top, it will have a good place on the list, and we shall do our best to see that this line is completed without undue delay. That is as much as we can promise at this stage."

The Resolution was then put and agreed to.

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 9.

The Hon'ble BABU UPENDRA LAL RAY moved the following Resolution :—

That this Council recommends to the Governor in Council that steps be taken for the improvement of the Port of Chittagong, and for the provision of better means of communication between that port and the Eastern Bengal districts.

He said :—

"Sir, the resolution I have the honour to move is of a very simple character. I feel sure that it will meet with the approval of Government and will not be deemed unacceptable. I am suggesting only two things, *viz.*, the improvement of the Port of Chittagong and the provision of better means of communication between that port and the districts of Eastern Bengal. These two subjects are intimately connected with each other. In my last speech on the Budget I made mention of the necessity for improving the port of Chittagong. From its geographical situation this port is the natural outlet to the sea for a vast tract of country the trade of which can be better served both inward and outward through this port, provided better facilities are given to it. It is an admitted fact that the senior port of the Province, I mean Calcutta, is congested heavily. The late Government of Eastern Bengal and Assam considered the question in all its aspects, and did not fail in its attempt to impress the Government of India with the necessity for improving it. That Government also fully supported the schemes suggested by the Eastern Bengal and Assam Government, and helped the port with funds for coping with the many disabilities it had been suffering from. The dredger *Karnaphuli I*, supplied to the port entirely out of Imperial revenues, is doing excellent work and as the name indicates, is one of the complete set of dredgers or other appliances necessary to keep the work in running order. The Commissioners for the Port of Chittagong have always drawn the

attention of Government to the necessity for further appliances ; and in answer to certain queries from this Government about the future needs of the port they have suggested, amongst others, a more powerful dredger as the thing of first importance. The river is causing some anxiety and special care has to be taken about its training and conservancy. The Commissioners are at present engaged in formulating some suitable schemes for facilitating the coasting trade of the port, and when they mature and reach the Government we earnestly hope they will receive favourable consideration. Nearness to the sea conduces in no small degree to minimize the expenses of steamers using the port ; and the shortness of its distance from the tracts of country it serves by nearly 25 per cent. helps those places to carry commodities to and from the port at much less expense. These are the facilities which Chittagong possesses geographically, and the increase of trade within the last few years caused evidently by the opening up of the Assam-Bengal Railway justifies expenditure of further sums of money for the improvement of the port.

Turning to the question of opening up of new railway lines, I venture to say that there is nothing new in my suggestion. The utility of railway lines is undisputed, and the immensely fertile and thickly-populated parts of Mymensingh district are at present served only by the River Steamer Companies which cannot carry the goods from all parts of the district except during the rains. Of the schemes suggested, if a line of railway from Bhairab to Netrakona, for which a survey has already been made, should remove this difficulty, and we can only hope that the assurance of Government that this line would receive the first consideration will be soon fulfilled. Opposition has always been and will also be made to any scheme which affects any particular class of people, but in the case of a scheme by which the whole country is benefited the interests of the few should give way and those of the country at large should appeal to the Government. Sir, in these days of improved communication it is a pity that the Barisal district and the comparatively large area of the Mymensingh district hitherto untapped by railway should not have this means of communication. I am glad to learn to-day that the Barisal project will soon be taken in hand. The Assam-Bengal Railway feeds the Port of Chittagong and should have prior claim to have extensions over the tract of country it traverses. It is not desirable and proper that there should be two lines of railway over the same area, and the transfer of the Dacca-Mymensingh-Jagannathganj section of the Eastern Bengal State Railway is one which should commend itself to this Government. Trade statistics will show that the imports and exports of the Port of Chittagong have increased manifold since the construction of the Assam-Bengal Railway, and the development of this line, which is sure to augment the general prosperity of the country, is a matter which should attract the early attention of the Government. I do not think it necessary to trouble the Council with further observations. The subject is well known to Government, and its importance having been recognized by them I venture to hope that the humble resolution which I have the honour to place before the Council on behalf of the commercial community of Eastern Bengal and at their express desire will be accepted. The popular view on this question has been repeatedly ventilated through the columns of the *Herald*, the organ of pubic opinion in Eastern Bengal."

The Hon'ble MR. BEATSON BELL said :—

" Sir, I have much pleasure on behalf of Government in saying that we accord our cordial support to the motion that steps be taken for the improvement of the Port of Chittagong and for the provision of better means of communication between that port and the Eastern Bengal districts. The Government has a very kindly eye upon the Port of Chittagong. This can be seen not only from the financial help that has been given by

[*Mr. Beatson Bell; The Vice-President.*]

Government, but also from the fact that very recently special legislation was undertaken with a view to improve the administration of the port. As regards the railways, the Hon'ble Member has referred to the Bhairab-Netrakona Railway. This scheme, which has the full support of the Bengal Government, is now under the consideration of the Secretary of State, whose orders are expected shortly. As regards the other means of improving the Port of Chittagong, the Hon'ble Member is of course aware that Sir Francis Spring recently visited Chittagong and made an epoch-making report. We have been considering that report and the far-reaching recommendations contained in it, and long before the Hon'ble gentleman gave notice of this Resolution, you, Sir, and I had decided to pay a joint visit to Chittagong for the very purpose mentioned in the resolution. We were going to be accompanied by Mr. Stephenson to give us financial advice, and Colonel Lotbinière to give us engineering advice, but unfortunately the European crisis came upon us just when we were ready to start. We have been reluctantly compelled to abandon our tour for the present; but we have in no way slackened our interest in the port and we hope before long to visit Chittagong and to do all that we can to carry out the improvement of the port with such means as we have at our disposal or may have in the future. That being so, I have much pleasure in accepting the resolution of our hon'ble friend."

The Resolution was then put and agreed to.

ADJOURNMENT.

THE VICE-PRESIDENT:—"The Council stands adjourned to Friday, the 4th September, 1914, at 11 A.M., at Government House, Calcutta."

A. W. WATSON,
Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal and
Secy. to the Bengal Legislative Council.

CALCUTTA;
The 17th August, 1914.

B. S. Press—18-9-1914—1604J—00—J. A. M.

Abstract of the Proceedings of an Extraordinary Meeting of the Bengal Legislative Council assembled under the provisions of the Indian Councils Acts, 1861, 1892 and 1909, and the Government of India Act, 1912.

THE Council met in the Council Chamber in Government House on Tuesday, the 11th August, 1914, at 11 A.M.

Present:

His Excellency the Right Hon'ble THOMAS DAVID, BARON CARMICHAEL OF SKIRLING, G.C.I.E., K.C.M.G., *Governor of the Presidency of Fort William in Bengal, presiding.*

The Hon'ble SIR FREDERICK WILLIAM DUKE, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., *Vice-President.*

The Hon'ble NAWAB SYED SHAMS-UL-HUDA.

The Hon'ble MR. N. D. BEATSON-BELL, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. C. J. STEVENSON-MOORE, C.V.O.

The Hon'ble MR. F. J. MONAHAN.

The Hon'ble MR. J. G. CUMMING, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. J. H. KERR, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. H. L. STEPHENSON, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. H. F. SAMMAN.

The Hon'ble MR. H. H. GREEN.

The Hon'ble LT.-COL. A. C. deL. JOLY DE LOTBINIÈRE, C.S.I., C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. A. H. CUMING.

The Hon'ble MR. W. W. HORNELL.

The Hon'ble MR. C. F. PAYNE.

The Hon'ble RAI PRIYA NATH MUKHARJI BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble MR. H. J. HILARY.

The Hon'ble MR. S. P. SINHA.

The Hon'ble DR. NILRATAN SIRCAR.

The Hon'ble RAJA HRISHIKESH LAHA, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. BYOMKES CHAKRAVARTI.

The Hon'ble SIR BIJAY CHAND MAHTAB, K.C.S.I., K.C.I.E., I.O.M., Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan.

The Hon'ble MAHARAJA JAGADINDRA NATH RAY.

The Hon'ble RAJA SHOSHI KANTA ACHARYYA CHAUDHURI BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble DR. DEBA PRASAD SARBADHIKARI, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. F. H. STEWART, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. W. T. GRICE.

The Hon'ble MR. G. A. BAYLEY.

The Hon'ble MR. GOLAM HOSSEIN CASSIM ARIFF.

The Hon'ble MAULVI MAZHARUL ANWAR CHAUDHURI.

The Hon'ble MAULVI A. K. FAZ-UL-HAQ.

The Hon'ble MAHARAJA RANAJIT SINHA OF NASHIPUR.

The Hon'ble RAI NALINAKSHA BASU BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble RAJA MAHENDRA RANJAN RAY CHAUDHURI.

The Hon'ble NAWAB SAIYID NAWAB ALI CHAUDHURI, KHAN BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble BABU PRASANNA KUMAR RAY.

[*The President.*]

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJEA.

The Hon'ble BABU MAHENDRA NATH RAY, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble RAI HARI MOHAN CHANDRA BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble CHAUDHURI MUHAMMAD ISMAIL KHAN.

[*The Proceedings of the Meeting were confined to the discussion of a Resolution which was moved from the Chair by His Excellency the President.*]

The PRESIDENT said :—

"Gentlemen, I have summoned you to this Extraordinary Meeting not because there is any business in the ordinary sense of the word to be done, but because I feel it is right and I know that many of you feel it is right for us to meet and express our loyalty to our King-Emperor at this time. I feel, too, that there is advantage in our showing to the people of Bengal that not only is the Executive Government alive to their needs and determined to do all it can to meet them, but that the representatives of all classes and communities—whatever their creeds or even their race—are also alive to those needs and are as determined as Government servants are to meet them, and what is even of more importance, that they are determined to meet them in co-operation with Government, thus making it clear that our common loyalty is a real bond which firmly knits the people of India and the people of Great Britain together and adds to the strength of each. I have therefore decided to move a Resolution to-day from the Chair. I shall ask you to declare that—

"This Council desires to convey to His Majesty the King-Emperor an assurance of its profound loyalty and devotion to His Throne and Person; to express its entire confidence in the Government by law established in British India; and to place on record its firm resolve to co-operate with that Government in carrying out all measures which may be found necessary to secure the safety or welfare of the people.

"Gentlemen, the loyalty of Bengal is undoubted. There may be a few men, to whom on less troublous times attention naturally turns, who would like to upset the Government of the King-Emperor, but the vast majority of our people—practically all—are loyal in the true sense of the word. I do not labour this point. To me the fact seems undoubted. You know how far it is true; if it is true, you will in all wise ways prove it.

"War is a terrible thing; how terrible, few, if any, of us perhaps yet realise; we may be going to realise it to the full. The news that the whole British Empire was involved in war came on us suddenly. Little wonder if we all stood aghast. Little wonder if to some of us the more terrifying aspect of war loomed large. We had not all realised how united we are, and that, too, added to the gravity of the situation. But we have realised it now. We begin to dwell on what is encouraging. Here, no less than in every other part of the Empire, we hold together. We feel that we have no need to fear each other. British businessmen recognise that Indians, as Indians, will not seize on chances to do damage to their property, and Indians realise that British troops of all arms will, if need be, defend the lives and property of Indians quite as bravely as they will fight for their own. If disturbance should break out, we all know that the most insignificant *modi*, who depends on his small stock of wares for his livelihood, can look for the same protection as the owner of the largest mill or the most elaborate machinery. Those of us who have gone into the matter feel that His Imperial Majesty and his advisers in entering into the war did so for a cause which we believe is righteous. We do not know much—for that has not hitherto been our business—about the organisation on which our success in war depends, but we believe that it is as good as conscientious men can make it. As far as India is concerned, this organisation is in the hands of the Viceroy and his Government. We trust the Viceroy; we shall gladly do all that he may call on us to do.

[*The President.*]

"In Bengal, I hope the people trust the Government and believe that Government will do their best. I know that Government trusts the people to help where they can. The people can help us—some more than others. You non-official members of my Council can help more than most. You can help us by calmly thinking things out, by considering any proposals which may be suggested, by selecting what is good, by doing yourselves such things as you can do, and when you think Government help is required, by not being in too great a hurry for an answer, and by remembering that even Government cannot always do everything. Those are simple matters, but they are very important. We, the Executive Government, on our side shall consider proposals and, if we think you can give us help by getting information, by spreading information, or in any other way, we shall not hesitate to ask for it.

"There was much anxiety, there still is much anxiety, about trade and commerce, but it grows less. People realise that things adapt themselves to altered circumstances. Most of the anxiety is due to causes which those only with technical knowledge understand. I believe the merchants and large traders who do understand them recognise that the Government of India, and in a lesser way my Government, have tried to give help to them. Many of the ways by which commerce can best be helped lie outside of India altogether. We have been clearly reminded how much we depend on England—on London. Till things are steady there, things can hardly be steady here. But there is rapid improvement, and we hope soon to get all help we need to enable us to help ourselves. The jute industry is in all our thoughts. No one knows better than Government the importance of that industry. We are considering it in every aspect. We are getting full and accurate information. I put forward no proposals, but I assure you that there is nothing to which I personally am giving more thought. We recognise the importance to that other great industry, the tea industry, of not losing its labour force. Trade must be seriously checked—nothing can prevent that. There must be loss to all, but it is Government's interest quite as much as that of anyone—and it is the interest of all—not to allow employment to fall off more than can be prevented. We know that those who must suffer most if trade and commerce shrink are those who can least afford to suffer. We recognise that if mills cannot work at a profit, mills must stop and mill-hands must be thrown out of work. We know what a danger that may become. The mill-owners will help us. If they are forced to close their mills, they will give us warning, so that we may be prepared. Perhaps then you, too, may do something. You may know where labour is needed. Government at least will try to guide labour where employment can be found.

"The price of food-stuffs and of the necessities of life has been brought prominently before us. What has been done elsewhere has been pointed out, and we have been asked what we intend to do. We are doing what we can. We are ascertaining facts. We have appealed to those who control the markets, and I am glad to say I hear they are helping us. Taken as a whole, prices have not risen to an alarming extent. Some of them have not risen at all. Others which did rise are now falling. We are well aware of the danger, and that we shall not fail to take any lawful steps to prevent any unjustifiable rise in the prices of necessities. Nothing can be meaner than for private persons to make money out of public difficulties, and certainly we shall do our best to prevent it. In this, too, perhaps we can get help from some of you, my non-official colleagues. It has been stated that individuals trading on the nervousness of the poorer and more ignorant classes have by false representations bought currency notes much below their value. Surely you can help to make it more widely known, if that be necessary, that a ten-rupee note is worth ten rupees so long as Government are solvent; and that there can be no doubt that the Government are solvent.

[*The President; Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan; Nawab Saiyid Nawab Ali Chaudhuri.*]

"The responsibility of Government is great, and Government recognise that responsibility. Your responsibility is also great. I believe that you recognise it to the full. There are many proofs of this. We have only to look at our newspapers. I do not refer to one newspaper to which I might refer, for I know how immediately one of you is connected with it. But there was an article yesterday in another newspaper, not as a rule very closely associated with Government views, which I dare say many of you read, entitled 'How the Government can help the people in the present crisis.' I read that article, and it struck me that it might quite as well have been entitled 'How the people can help the Government,' for the one lesson was quite as clearly put forward as the other. It very clearly pointed to ways in which mischief may be produced, and I think that if those outside of Government do their best to understand these they will be helping us, for in many of those matters that which is needed most is confidence. I think I have now said enough. I feel I can confidently appeal to you to help in the greatest need of the present moment. Through the mists of ignorance small dangers may easily loom large. You, gentlemen, are not ignorant. You have, many of you, great powers of persuasion. You can use your powers to enlighten the ignorant and re-assure the timid. I cannot now do better than remind you of the old words of the Hebrew Prophet—'In quietness and confidence shall be your strength.' I beg to move the Resolution which I have read to the Council."

The Hon'ble the MAHARAJADHIRAJA BAHADUR OF BURDWAN said—

"In rising to support this Resolution I shall only say a very few words, for the Resolution is one which commends itself to everyone of us present here to-day, and, speaking on behalf of the landholders of the Province, I may say that they realise the danger of the European crisis more than most of us perhaps. For they have had to bear the brunt in more ways than one in the past, and they will have to bear that brunt in the future. Their loyalty is known to the Crown, their prosperity is entwined with that of the Government, and I am sure that all zamindars will rise to the occasion and give such assistance as may be required of them. We know full well that we are only in the beginning of a great war; what the future holds none can say; but we sincerely pray for the success of the British Arms and prosperity of British India. Your Excellency has been pleased to remark about the effect the war is likely to have on trade and commerce, and, lastly, on the price of food-stuffs. This is a matter that I think we are interested in vitally, for to avoid panic, to avoid riots, the thing that is necessary is to keep down the price of food-stuffs as much as possible. We can well understand the price of food-stuffs on imported articles going up, but I think all market-owners should realise that it is to their benefit that indigenous articles or country produce do not rise in price, and I think all municipalities should realise this and co-operate with the zamindars, with the owners of markets and the Government to help us in keeping down the price of country produce and thereby help in keeping down all panic and disturbances. I heartily support this Resolution, and wish to add that the zamindars of Bengal will do all in their power to help the Government and to show loyalty to the cause and to the British Government which has given them so much peace and prosperity."

The Hon'ble NAWAB SAIYID NAWAB ALI CHAUDHURI, KHAN BAHADUR said—

"My Lord, prior to and since the outbreak of war between England and Germany and especially ever since the pronouncement of His Excellency Lord Hardinge of the unflinching loyalty of the Army and peoples of India, there has been a spontaneous outburst from princes and peoples of this vast

[*Nawab Saiyid Nawab Ali Chaudhuri.*]

continent of proffers of personal and material assistance to Government, should necessity arise for the same, during this critical juncture. It is well nigh astonishing at a time when Ireland was almost on the brink of a civil war on account of bitter and acute party feelings and when the militant suffragettes were making themselves obnoxious and dangerous to a degree by their persistent and wanton destruction of buildings and property—I say it was nothing short of a miracle that—all have joined hands together in their earnestness to defend the Empire by offers of assistance to Government against the enemy of Great Britain—an enemy who has provoked and thrust the war that was never wanted. Then, again, the fact of the encouraging news of all the colonies vying with one another in their offer of assistance to Government is another matter for jubilation. The Empire has been stirred to its depths of sincerity in its loyalty to the Throne of England and fervent wish for the ultimate success of British arms. Germany has forced the war upon England and has been seeking to set ablaze all Europe in one conflagration. I must say, however, that we are thankful that overtures for the maintenance of peace were strenuously made by Sir Edward Grey, one of Great Britain's valiant statesmen, whose name future historians will no doubt record in glowing terms. But, alas, Germany seemed to have spurned it all and has sought to follow her own wilful ways. It is an unrighteous war imposed by Germany on Britain and Europe in general, and we Indians feel proud to belong to such a Government that seeks to 'vindicate,' in the words of Mr. Asquith, 'the principle that small nations must not be crushed in defiance of international good faith at the arbitrary will of a strong and overmastering power,' and whose arms have been raised for the protection of England and her commerce and to strike 'in defence of the vital civilisations of the world.' I need hardly say that the interests of this country and the civilisation of the whole world are indissolubly bound up with the integrity and solidarity of the British Empire.

"My Lord, I beg leave to associate myself, as a member of the Muhammadan community, with what has already been so ably said on the subject by Your Lordship, and I say with all the sincerity of my heart that my community shall ever remain loyal to the Throne and Person of our beloved King-Emperor, and shall ever be ready to make such sacrifices as we may be called upon to make to help the Government in a successful issue out of this wanton and unrighteous war.

"My Lord, speaking as I do as an Indian and as a member of my community, we are indebted to the British *Raj* a great deal—so much so that any sacrifice we may make will not be considered too great. We shall not be wanting in our assurances of sympathy and help to Government at this crisis and sink any grievances we may have and rally to the succour of our Government. I beg to assure Your Excellency's Government that we, the Muhammadans of Bengal, are not one whit less devoted and loyal to our King-Emperor, and we would count it a privilege to offer our personal and material assistance in the defence of the Empire—an Empire that has stood for purity, strength, righteousness and civilisation which have left visible and indelible marks wherever the British held sway.

"Only yesterday I presided over a meeting convened by the Provincial Muhammadan Association at Dacca at the suggestion of the Hon'ble Nawab Bahadur of Dacca—whose protracted illness we all deplore—where the following resolution was unanimously adopted :—

"'That this meeting, representing the Muhammadans of Eastern Bengal, offers its sincere prayers for the success of the British arms in the war which has been forced upon England by the unrighteous action of Germany, and that the community, true to its tradition of loyalty and devotion to the British Crown, places its services at the disposal of the Government in protecting the interests of the Empire.'

[*Babu S. N. Banerji.*]

"I may assure Your Excellency that in addition to the expressions of loyalty and devotion to the Throne of England and offers of all possible assistance, there goes up a fervent prayer from His Majesty's Mussalman subjects in Bengal for the success of British arms."

We shall never cease to continue to echo the chorus—

"Rule Britannia; Britannia rules the waves."

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJEA said—

"My Lord, I desire on behalf of those whom I have the honour to represent in this Council to associate myself whole-heartedly with the Resolution which Your Excellency has been pleased to lay before us for our acceptance. I desire to assure Your Excellency and through Your Excellency the Government of India and His Majesty the King-Emperor of our unswerving loyalty to the British connection, of our devoted attachment to the British Throne, of our eager solicitude to co-operate with the Government, and to participate in the defence of the Empire. It is a crisis which brings to the front the true—it might be the hidden—qualities of men and communities. From every part of this wide, wide continent, from every section of its multitudinous people, from the highest to the lowest, from the Prince in his palace to the peasant in his cottage, there has emanated the most striking evidence of the devotion of the people to the Empire. The princes of the land have offered to place all their resources at the disposal of the Government. The middle class community, unburdened with the goods of this world, are eager to serve the Empire. Our prayer for enrolment as volunteers is a reply to any aspersion which might be cast on our courage or our loyalty. We have our little differences with the Government—what people have not—but I speak the truth when I say that we have sunk them all and have buried them out of sight for the moment, in the firm resolve to stand by the Empire. We are a loyal people. Your Excellency has borne testimony to our loyalty. By instinct, by habit, by immemorial traditions, we are loyal. Our loyalty has its roots deep in our hearts, but it is a reasoned loyalty. It springs from the fountains of our affections. We are loyal not only because it is part of our nature, our temperament, our creed, but because everyone of us feel that with the stability and permanence of British rule are bound up the best prospects of Indian advancement. The flag which waves over us, the flag which has made us what we are is the emblem of our national unity and our national progress. It is our hope and prayer that it may continue to float over us until we enter the promised land and are reckoned among the free States of a great and federated Empire. These are the hopes and ambitions which warm our bosoms as we gather round the banner of the Empire which is the banner of justice and freedom.

"We are very far from the theatre of war, but in these days of rapid communication the consequences of war are of world-wide comprehensiveness, and we are beginning to feel its effects in the abnormal rise in the price of food-stuffs here. There is not the smallest justification for this rise of prices, because the enhanced prices are charged on the old stock which was purchased long before we heard of war or the rumours of war. In other parts of India the authorities have taken steps to regulate the prices. We are confident that when the time comes Your Excellency's Government would take steps to do the same here. The Corporation, which controls the largest market in the city, can do a great deal in this matter, and perhaps the Chairman of the Corporation might get the shop-keepers to meet him and accept the prices he fixes. Once that is done the news would spread like wild-fire and mafassal traders would take their cue from Calcutta. In conclusion, may I be permitted to express the earnest hope that Your Excellency's Government will be graciously pleased to accept the co-operation of

the community and the loyal offers of service which they are making. Such acceptance will deepen their attachment to the Empire which they are privileged to serve in the hour of danger. It will enhance their self-respect, their civic dignity and their sense of Imperial responsibility. Their devotion to the Empire will be consecrated by service. I support the Resolution."

The Hon'ble DR. DEBA PRASAD SARBADHIKARI said—

"On behalf of the University and of all that it stands for, which is much, I beg to associate myself very whole-heartedly with the terms of the Resolution that Your Excellency has put from the Chair. If, my Lord, other people are less burdened with the goods of this world than our princes, those that I represent are burdened with still less. They cannot offer anything in the way of material wealth. But they have energies and their own limited resources which will be wholly at the disposal of the Government in any manner which the Government may desire to utilise them. During the last few days in Calcutta and Dacca it has been my good fortune to come across thousands of young men and their teachers and professors, and they have all but one message for the Government and the authorities, and that is of their whole-hearted devotion to the Throne and Person of the King-Emperor and their adherence to the British Government constituted by law. I shall not take up the time of the Council by going over what has been so eloquently stated by my predecessor. There is an outstanding feature with regard to this war, unparalleled in the annals of recent wars, that there is not a breath of protest or dissent with regard to the righteousness of the war from the point of view of the British, and there is but one consensus of opinion in every quarter that we have any access to. We remember other wars in regard to which there may have been room for differences of opinion, and as a matter of fact people took different views and expressed different opinions, but in regard to this war the opinion wherever you go, whether it be amongst the educated people or amongst the uneducated, I speak specially for the former, there is but one opinion. All recognise the righteousness of the cause that has been undertaken to be defended by the British. Hindus are a people that believe, that in war on whatever side there is righteousness the Lord is also on that side, and that side prevails. That has been the sentiment freely expressed and there is strength in that. If Government should accept any of the recommendations that have been made and will be pressed on them, I beg to assure the Government that our young men will very whole-heartedly co-operate with regard to all that may be demanded of them. In the meantime there is already a practical demonstration of what some of these men can do. Reference has already been made to it, and I should like to dwell on that aspect of the medical volunteer movement. Whatever may be the fate of any other movement that may be initiated, I do not think there can be any room for doubt that fullest utilisation should be possible with regard to the offer of our medical friends. They are already meeting in large numbers, organising measures for work, and they will soon be ready to do what they can in regard to anything that the Government may think fit to utilise them for. That is a practical thing that can at once be availed of. With regard to the economic aspect of the question, hardship is already beginning to be felt, and from the point of view that I represent, this aspect of the question is of the greatest importance, because it affects the poorest communities, from which our students mostly come, and any little strain, so far as they are concerned, is bound to tell. Therefore any protection that it may be possible to extend to that community will be very welcome and be of great help in strengthening other measures of co-operation needful for the hour. With these few words, I beg to support the Resolution that has been moved by Your Excellency."

[*Mr. Stewart.*]

The Hon'ble MR. STEWART said :—

"Your Excellency, on behalf of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce which I have the honour to represent in this Council, I declare the personal services, the resources and the abilities of the British mercantile community, individually and collectively, to be without reserve at the disposal of Your Excellency's Government. The Committee of the Chamber of Commerce have been and are giving their constant and anxious attention to the situation, and the *communiquè* which they issued on Saturday last to all members and to the Press, although deliberately worded with the utmost moderation will, it is hoped, have done much to allay any general feeling that might have arisen as to the possibility of serious financial difficulties in Calcutta, and have proved that there are no grounds for any such foreboding. With the Exchange Banks facing the position and the Bank of Bengal at their back and Government, if necessary, behind that, and with the wealth of money which is available in Calcutta to-day. I cannot myself see any danger of serious financial trouble amongst the trading community, provided that, as has been promised, the common-sense of most is employed for the good of all.

"We know that Your Excellency's Government are prepared to help in any way that may be necessary, and that they already have the labour problem and regulation of food-prices in hand and are considering what can be done to help also our great tea and jute-industries. I would point out the necessity for preventing the dissemination of false news from Europe. This should not be difficult of arrangement, and in this connection I venture to say that if Government consider it necessary to exercise the most stringent censorship for State reasons over war-news, they should declare this intention openly. Everyone will loyally acquiesce in the decision, but everyone is convinced that all care must be taken to prevent a gradual growth of a state of general and avoidable tension and suspense. Care should also be taken to avoid any unnecessary appearance of militarism. All our efforts in this direction should be concentrated on the preservation of law and order and public confidence.

"Beyond these points there are two or three matters of specific commercial importance which I have been asked to mention to-day. We recognise with gratitude that Your Excellency's Government are busy with them all, but I would most strongly urge the need for expediting them. One is the extension of permission to use telegraphic codes to Banks and private firms.

"I need not detail any arguments here, but I can think of few things that would do more to restore business confidence. The little which has been granted already in this direction is appreciated, but is, I understand, not of much practical value, and both banks and merchants' firms have declared that they are prepared to do everything in their power to assist the censors in the discharge of their duty.

"Another matter is with reference to the system of State Insurance, which has been initiated at Home. We want to know as soon as possible if the Government of India is prepared to initiate a similar system here either on their own account or as Agent for the Home Government. The machinery for working such a system is ready to hand in the local insurance companies.

"The third and last matter which I wish to touch upon is with regard to the six German steamers which are in the river in various stages of loading and discharge. Will Government be so good as to declare without further delay what is going to be done with all the cargo which is the property of British merchants ; also the coal ; also the crews ? The most urgent case of all perhaps is that of the S.S. *Freinfels*, which has been fully loaded with a general cargo for American ports for some days. Could not this vessel's cargo be sent on at once to its destination under the British or American flag, or perhaps preferably discharged without further delay and returned to those who paid for it ?

[*Mr. Stewart; Rai Nalinaksha Basu Bahadur; Mr. Byomkes Chakravarti.*]

"I should also like such information as is available about the S. S. *Rappenfels*, another steamer of the same line bound for Hamburg, which is said to have been captured by a British Man-of-war and taken into Colombo. I may say that the late Agents of the Hansa Line are quite prepared to act for Government in everything with regard to these vessels, and that it would appear common-sense to employ them to complete the discharge of these steamers which are already being unloaded.

"I do not think that I can usefully add anything more meanwhile to these remarks, and I would therefore conclude by repeating that the best services of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce are entirely at the disposal of Your Excellency's Government, and by heartily supporting the Resolution which Your Excellency has moved."

The Hon'ble RAI NALINAKSHA BASU BAHADUR said—

"I, as a District Board representative, beg to support with all my heart the Resolution moved by Your Excellency. There is no doubt that our Empire is in a great crisis, but as justice is on our side, the victory, I am sure will be ours. It is a well-known fact that India is heartily loyal to the British Crown, and is prepared, for the manifold blessings received from it to do the best in her power to help the Government in the midst of its difficulties. India is prepared to stand to a man to fight for the Empire. We do not wish to make any prayer to be employed in any particular capacity and thereby embarrass the Government, but we beg to assure Your Excellency that we are prepared to do any work that may be entrusted to us. We are interested in the rise of prices, and I assure your Excellency that we will do all in our power to keep them down."

With these words, I beg to support the Resolution.

The Hon'ble MR. BYOMKES CHAKRAVARTI said—

"My Lord, I cordially support the Resolution which Your Excellency has placed before this Council. Although happily for us we are far away from the scene of actual activities, we are not very far from its effects. The money-market is disturbed, the trade has been dislocated, the labour market is beginning to be in an unsettled state, and the price of food-stuffs has gone up. The position as it is to-day is one of grave difficulty, and I only wish that it may not become more difficult as time goes on. The immense growth of the jute industry of late years, and the possibility of this season's jute remaining unsold and unutilised will add to the difficulty of the tenant, the landlord, the mill-owner and, may I add, the Government if the next instalment of Government revenue due on the 28th September is not regularly paid. It is not in a critical and fault-finding spirit that the situation is being approached. It requires sympathy, co-operation, combination and tact, and I desire to convey to Your Excellency and Your Excellency's Government, and through Your Excellency's Government to the Imperial Government and the Crown that, so far as we Indians are concerned, you have our unstinted support, and I sincerely hope and trust that the present situation, however undesirable by itself, will be utilised to the fullest extent to the benefit and advantage of all concerned, European as well as Indian, officials and non-officials who join hands and rally to the support of the Government in their moment of supreme danger and difficulty. Let the consideration of all matters where there may be contention and difference stand over for the present, and let all of us combine in mitigating the unavoidable effects of the war. Let there be, if it is possible, a comparatively small though influential informal committee composed of Europeans and Indians, officials and non-officials, which may meet and disseminate such information and take such steps as may have the effect of preventing a state of panic and of making it impossible for sellers of necessaries to make undue

[*Mr. Byomkes Chakravarti; Mr. Grice; Chaudhuri Muhammad Ismail Khan.*]

and illegitimate gain out of the present crisis. There are wild rumours which are being spread. It has come to my knowledge that with regard to currency notes it has been suggested that a 10-rupee note is worth only 5 rupees. I have been making inquiries and find that this is not so. Let the various Chambers of Commerce, European as well as Indian, meet and dispassionately consider the situation and devise means for relieving the situation; let the Exchange Banks join in securing as steady a money-market as possible. Let the producer, the baler and the manufacturer of jute join hands in relieving each other as much as possible. It may also be necessary for the Government to relax the sunset law as regards the payment of the Government revenue during next September. The Government also may look for support from all the Indian communities who are prepared to place their services at the disposal of the Government, whether it be for the purpose of maintaining order or for rendering assistance in case of India being involved in active hostilities. May the Government in this connection rely in an ever-increasing measure on the loyalty and devotion of the people to the Crown, and give the people of Bengal, especially her youth, an opportunity of showing their metal and proving how useful they may make themselves even in a difficult situation like the present. Our young men have legitimate aspiration; let us find an outlet for their energy. Suffer we must, but let us see that there is no avoidable and unnecessary suffering caused by short-sighted, ill-considered and selfish conduct on the part of any of us. With these words, I have great pleasure in supporting the Resolution."

The Hon'ble MR. GRICE said—

"Your Excellency, in associating myself and the community I represent with this Resolution, I can say that no community has a greater wish than this community to support the Government in the present situation. They have no desire or wish to make any illegitimate profit out of the war. They are faced with an economic situation which they have never had to face before, and it is in looking for an outlet to this position that is giving them at the present moment so much trouble. My Lord, I can assure Your Excellency's Government that the Members of the Calcutta Trades' Association are body and soul with you in the present situation. As a volunteer of some considerable standing, I regret to have noticed in the papers recently some of the alarmists' notes as to the use to which volunteers are to be put. I have heard it said and seen it written that volunteers are to be used as a means of clearing the streets and other objects for which, of course, we have no use. These alarmists' notes in the papers, I think, should be suppressed; the conditions under which volunteers are enrolled is to respect the lives and property of the meanest of His Majesty's subjects as well as the highest. As a Commanding Officer of one of the local battalions, I can assure all the papers who have been writing alarmists' notes that such will be our endeavour. With these few words, I beg to associate myself with the Resolution."

The Hon'ble CHAUDHURI MUHAMMAD ISMAIL KHAN said—

"Your Excellency, I crave permission to add my feeble voice to the eloquent expressions of Bengal's fervent loyalty and attachment to the Throne. This is indeed an occasion on which we should let the world know how deep, how abiding, how firm, is our loyalty to our Emperor and what pride we feel in being the citizens of the British Empire over which 'the all-glorious sun never sets.' We should also tell the world that in this emergency India is prepared to rise as a man and to make any sacrifice for upholding British honour and prestige, and also to maintain Britain's position as the greatest world-power. Let not our enemies think that though we occasionally air our grievances and find fault with the administration, we know in the heart of our hearts that in *Pax Britannica* lie all our hopes of salvation and of our growth and development as a nation. India is loyal

[*Chaudhuri Muhammad Ismail Khan ; Raja Mahendra Ranjan Ray Chaudhuri.*]

to the core, and all differences between sects and sects, between communities and communities, and between races and races have been hushed into silence by the appearance of the common danger, and though we may not be permitted to take any part in the life-and-death struggle in Europe, let the world know that in the event of any other power touching the Indian shores and seas in hostile attitude, we are prepared to shed every drop of our life-blood for our good and benign Emperor. India's millions will stand firm to preserve the integrity of the Empire."

"On behalf of myself and my constituency, I would ask you to accept these professions of loyalty in the spirit in which they are offered."

The Hon'ble RAJA MAHENDRA RANJAN RAY CHAUDHURI said—

"My Lord, I rise to support whole-heartedly and with all the warmth I can command, the Resolution which Your Excellency has so fittingly moved from the Chair.

"We meet here to-day under circumstances the import, gravity and momentous weight of which it is impossible to exaggerate or even to realise fully ; but, my Lord, we have not hurried here to occupy the valuable public time in going over the opening history of the great conflagration that is now shooting out its flaming tongues and engulfing the continent of Europe, but to tell you, Sir, and through you the whole British nation that we, the citizens of India, are like them determined and resolved, and we mean to stand by the flag of our Gracious King and Emperor firmly and unflichingly to the very last, and that we are prepared, if need be, to sacrifice all and everything we possess in that undertaking. I do not speak under the dictates of sentiment alone, but I realise, my Lord, and everyone of my countrymen realise what the protection and security of the British flag means to us and all that it promises to us ; and now that the black clouds of a great war overcast the sky, we also realise more than ever what we shall be reduced to should that mighty protection be ever lost to us. Under that glorious flag we are men ; under any other we shall be no more than hateful bondsmen. It is unthinkable and unspeakable. The remotest and most distant reference to it fills us with horror and loathing. It shall never be ; we stand fast and firm with Britain's flag ; but, my Lord, we feel the time for speech is past. Now is the time for action, for work, for deeds. Allow us, we earnestly ask you, implore you, allow us to take part in some tangible way, no matter how humble it might be in this noble, glorious and proud work of defending the Empire. Our hearts are burning with the fire of irresistible enthusiasm. We are eager and impatient to render practical service in the cause of the Empire at this hour of crisis. We know we are not trained to the use of arms and field practice, but it is a shortcoming which, I venture to suggest, may easily be remedied. Our will is made up. Our hearts burn with the fire of enthusiasm. We are not afraid of any hardships, and as for our courage I shall say no more at present than that harder the test it is put to the better we shall be pleased. I pray you, my Lord, do not refuse us this great privilege. I know the great martial traditions of our race are now obscured by centuries, but still, we have a past to look back to and draw inspiration from ; but there are other ways than active fighting in which we might be employed, for example, in the Department of Transport or in the lines of communication, or even a corps of Bengali youths may be raised, trained and sent up to the front as sick-nurses to help the Red Cross societies. A practical appreciation of our deep and burning loyalty and enthusiasm for service at this hour of common danger will immensely strengthen the close tie which exists between us and England. I need scarcely add that nothing in the power of the people themselves that can be done to help the Government in any conceivable way during this crisis shall be left undone. But we feel sure, my Lord, and we are convinced of it

[*Raja Mahendra Ranjan Ray Chaudhuri; Mr. Sinha; Maharaja Ranajit Sinha of Nashipur; Sir William Duke.*]

that, however heavy the odds may be against which the forces of the Empire have to contend, the victory—the ultimate victory—shall be Britain's. There is not a man in India doubts it for a moment. Britannia shall and must always and uninterruptedly rule the waves and command the seas. I have no more words to say. We long, we thirst, and we impatiently await our noble and Gracious King-Emperor's call to the service of his great Empire. With one heart and one voice we pray for England's victory in her righteous war and a long and glorious reign for our King-Emperor. Once more, my Lord, we place ourselves with everything we possess at the service of the British nation."

The Hon'ble MR. S. P. SINHA said—

"I am sure we are all grateful to Your Excellency for giving us the privilege of expressing our loyalty and devotion to the Government on this occasion. We meet under the shadow of a great cloud, but there is a silver lining which has given us an occasion of understanding each other, and if there ever was any doubt as to the loyalty and devotion of India to the British Government, I trust that after to-day there would not be any man who would doubt it. My Lord, I hardly think that it was necessary for any of us to express our loyalty and devotion, but I welcome this occasion in so far as it affords us an opportunity of meeting together for the purpose of practical co-operation, and I trust that there would be private meetings not of the Council, but of ourselves for the purpose of devising practical measures to overcome such difficulties as may arise. We are alive to the importance of the regulation of trade and commerce, and I hope there may be opportunities for us to practically assist in the alleviation of such distress as is inevitable by reason of the war. With these words, my Lord, I desire to support the Resolution."

The Hon'ble MAHARAJA RANAJIT SINHA of NASHIPUR said—

"We are indeed grateful to Your Excellency for the opportunity which you have given us to give vent to our feelings of loyalty to the Throne. I can assure Your Excellency and the Government of the whole-hearted attachment to the Throne and the unswerving loyalty to His Majesty and the Government of the people. My Lord, as the Hon'ble the Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan has said, the zamindars of Bengal are in a peculiar position. Their prosperity is bound with that of the Government, and I can assure Your Excellency and Your Excellency's Government that there is not a single zamindar in this land who is not ready to offer his whole service and resources to Government at this time. My Lord, I take this opportunity of saying that in the mafassal there are many who are ignorant of the actual state of affairs, and I beg to suggest that District Officers might convene meetings for the zamindars and leading gentlemen and explain the situation to them. I am sure you will have their hearty co-operation in this respect. The price of food-stuffs has not yet risen in the mafassal, but if the price is allowed to rise in the metropolis I am sure they will do so in the mafassal. If the people in the mafassal are made to understand the situation by their leaders they would not try to profit themselves by the war."

The Hon'ble SIR WILLIAM DUKE said—

"My Lord, I have only a few disjointed remarks to offer with reference to the observations that have fallen from Members of Council this morning. In the first place, on some of the subjects Mr. Stewart mentioned, which are causing anxiety to the commercial circles of Calcutta, I may say a word or two. As regards the use of the Codes which we know to be of very great importance to merchants of Calcutta we have done what we could to assist them, and I know that our representations have not been lost upon the Government of India, and I have every hope that in the course of a day

Death of Lady Hardinge.

[*Sir William Duke ; The President.*]

or two it will be possible to give further assistance in regard to extended use of the Commercial Codes.

"There has been some delay in settling the manner in which the German ships should be dealt with, and that has partly arison from the action of Germany herself. The attitude of Government with regard to foreign shipping depends in a great measure upon the conduct of foreign countries to our shipping, and that matter, at any rate, has now been determined, and the High Court will proceed to exercise its jurisdiction as a Prize Court and deal with these ships and their cargoes.

"Some of the subjects which have been mentioned by Hon'ble Members are curiously connected together. The question of the price of food-stuffs is very much bound up with the circulation of wild rumours. It is always rumours which are at the bottom of any sudden and unreasonable rise of prices. It is, therefore, right that every effort should be made by all of us to suppress all circulation of unreasonable and baseless rumours and to endeavour, as far as possible, to ensure the avoidance of rash statements. I acknowledge however that upon the whole the Press have exercised a very reasonable degree of self-restraint in this direction. We are fully alive to the fact that trouble may arise for many classes, and particularly that agrarian trouble may arise if the jute market does not re-open. We are hopeful that in a short time it will open. If it does not, it is undeniable that the trouble will be serious. That being so, it is unnecessary to say as one newspaper has said, that jute is contraband of war and that its export from Calcutta is absolutely banned. There may be circumstances in which jute may be contraband of war. There are circumstances also in which it will not be contraband of war and its export from Calcutta has not been banned. It is unnecessary and unwise to increase public alarm by rash and excessive statements of this kind. Such rash and unwarranted statements are surely liable to have evil results.

"One other observation I would like to make—perhaps rather as an apology for the general attitude and action of Government—and that is that there is always a danger that many of those who make generous and enthusiastic offers of assistance should think that due consideration has not been given to them, and that they do not meet with the prompt acceptance that they have a right to expect. I would remind you that in modern times nations do not go to war entirely unprepared. In every civilised country a great machinery has been built up against the possibilities of war and, when war is declared, that machinery is called into action. It works rapidly. It absorbs the whole energies of many Government departments. Their first duty is to secure its prompt and punctual working, and, till this has been secured, they have little time to look to anything outside. Their first business is to see that the prepared machinery does its duty, and it is only after that has been got thoroughly into train and when there has been a breathing space that it is possible to consider what additions can be made to it and in what ways it can be improved. Then, no doubt, the opportunity for taking advantage of outside assistance in many directions would come.

"I think that if that were more realised it would be understood that in not immediately jumping at every offer that is made, Government are not suspicious or apathetic or tardy in acknowledging help, but that they are intensely absorbed in what must necessarily be their first duty."

The Resolution was then put to the Meeting and unanimously agreed to, all standing.

Death of Lady Hardinge.

The PRESIDENT then read the following telegram received from His Excellency the Viceroy in response to the Resolution of sympathy (relative

[*The President.*]

to the death of Lady Hardinge) which was carried by the Council at the Meeting held at Dacca on the 5th August, 1914 :—

"Please convey to the Members of the Bengal Legislative Council my deep appreciation of the sympathy which they have so feelingly expressed with me in my great sorrow.

VICEROY."

Adjournment.

The PRESIDENT said—

"One word before we separate. You will remember that at the Dacca Meeting it was announced that the Council would next meet on Friday, the 4th September. At that time it was believed that I and the Members of the Government would be at Dacca until the beginning of that month. I am now told that Friday, the 4th September, will not be convenient to some Members of Council ; and as I shall now be in Calcutta for the rest of this month and as I believe that it will not be inconvenient to any one if I alter the date, I declare this Council adjourned to Tuesday, the 1st September, 1914, at 11 A.M., at Government House, Calcutta."

A. W. WATSON,

Secretary to the Government of Bengal and
Secretary to the Bengal Legislative Council.

CALCUTTA,

The 18th August, 1914.

B. S. Press—12-9-1914—1618J—500—J. G. D

Abstract of the Proceedings of the Bengal Legislative Council, assembled under the provisions of the Indian Councils Acts, 1861, 1892 and 1909, and the Government of India Act, 1912.

THE Council met in the Council Chamber in Government House on Tuesday, the 1st September, 1914, at 11 A.M.

Present :

His Excellency the Right Hon'ble THOMAS DAVID, BARON CARMICHAEL OF SKIRLING, G.C.I.E., K.C.M.G., *Governor of the Presidency of Fort William in Bengal, presiding.*

The Hon'ble SIR FREDERICK WILLIAM DUKE, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., *Vice-President.*

The Hon'ble MR. N. D. BEATSON-BELL, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. C. J. STEVENSON-MOORE, C.V.O.

The Hon'ble MR. F. J. MONAHAN.

The Hon'ble MR. J. G. CUMMING, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. J. H. KERR, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. H. L. STEPHENSON, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. H. F. SAMMAN.

The Hon'ble MR. H. H. GREEN.

The Hon'ble LT.-COL. A. C. DEL. JOLY DE LOTBINIÈRE, C.S.I., C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. A. H. CUMING.

The Hon'ble MR. C. H. BOMPAS.

The Hon'ble MR. W. W. HORNELL.

The Hon'ble MR. C. F. PAYNE.

The Hon'ble RAI PRIYA NATH MUKHARJI BAHADUR

The Hon'ble MR. A. N. MOBERLY.

The Hon'ble MR. H. J. HILARY.

The Hon'ble MR. S. P. SINHA.

The Hon'ble DR. NILRATAN SARKAR.

The Hon'ble Raja Hrishikesh Laha, c.i.e.

The Hon'ble Mr. R. Glen.

The Hon'ble Mr. B. Chakravarti.

The Hon'ble Sir Bijay Chand Mahtab, k.c.s.i., k.c.i.e., i.o.m., Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan.

The Hon'ble Jagadindra Nath Ray.

The Hon'ble Raja Shoshi Kanta Acharyya Chaudhuri Bahadur.

The Hon'ble Dr. Deba Prasad Sarbadhikari, c.i.e.

The Hon'ble Raja Dinendra Narayan Ray.

The Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur.

The Hon'ble Mr. F. H. Stewart.

The Hon'ble Mr. W. T. Grice.

The Hon'ble Mr. G. A. Bayley.

The Hon'ble Mr. Golam Hossein Cassim Ariff.

The Hon'ble Maulvi Mazharul Anwar Chaudhuri.

The Hon'ble Maulvi Musharraf Husain.

The Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Faz-ul-Haq.

The Hon'ble Rai Nalinaksha Basu Bahadur.

The Hon'ble Babu Prasanna Kumar Ray.

The Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Banerji.

The Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Ray.

The Hon'ble Babu Mahendra Nath Ray, c.i.e.

The Hon'ble Chaudhuri Muhammad Ismail Khan.

The Hon'ble Babu Upendra Lal Ray.

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 1.

OATH OR AFFIRMATION OF ALLEGIANCE.

The Hon'ble Raja Dinendra Narayan Ray made an Oath or Affirmation of his Allegiance to the Crown.

[*Babu Upendra Lal Ray ; Mr. Samman ; Babu S. N. Ray ; Mr. Green.*]

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 2.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

By the Hon'ble BABU UPENDRA LAL RAY :—

Non-affiliation the Chittag College in cert subjects and want of a fir grade college Comilla.

*1. (*a*) Are the Government aware that a large number of students of the Chittagong Division prosecute their studies at Calcutta, Dacca and other places ?

(*b*) Is it not a fact that, in several of these cases, this is due to the non-affiliation of the Chittagong College in certain subjects, especially logic, and to the want of a first-grade college at Comilla ?

(*c*) Are the Government aware of the representations which have been made from time to time in this regard, and will they be pleased to state what steps they are taking in the matter ?

The Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN replied :—

(*a*) "Government have no statistical information on this point.

(*b*) This is probably the fact, but no specific cases have come to the notice of Government.

(*c*) Government are aware of the representations which have been made from time to time. No extension of affiliation is possible until more accommodation is available. Steps are being taken to supply the want."

By the Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH RAY :—

Railways Eastern Bengal.

*2. Will the Government be pleased to state—

(*i*) what are the lines of railways now under construction in Eastern Bengal ;

(*ii*) what lines have been sanctioned for future construction ; and

(*iii*) what lines have been surveyed and are awaiting sanction ?

The Hon'ble MR. GREEN replied :—

(*i*) "There are no railway lines at present under construction in Eastern Bengal, *i.e.*, in the Dacca and Chittagong Divisions.

(*ii*) No lines have as yet been sanctioned for construction in Eastern Bengal.

(*iii*) The following lines have been surveyed but not yet sanctioned :—

Dacca to Aircha.
Lakhee Khal Hat to Munshiganj.
Netrokona-Dolepur.
Singjhani-Lalitabari.
Hajiganj-Shatnal.
Mymensingh-Tangail.
Bhairab Bazar-Bagmara with branches of Netrokona and Mymensingh.
Faridpur-Bhanga.
Barisal-Khulna with branch to Madaripur."

[*Babu S. N. Ray ; Lt.-Col. Joly de Lotbinière ; Mr. Samman.*]

By the Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH RAY :—

The Madaripur Bheel Route.

*3. Will the Government be pleased to state the total expenses incurred up to date in opening the Madaripur Bheel Route and the present annual cost of its maintenance?

The Hon'ble LT.-COL. JOLY DE LOTBINIÈRE replied :—

"The total expenses incurred up to the end of 1913-14 in opening the Madaripur Bheel Route have been Rs. 32,70,733 for direct and indirect charges. The annual cost of its maintenance for the year 1913-14 has been Rs. 1,18,976 including all charges. The cost of maintenance for the year 1912-13 was Rs. 93,969."

By the Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH RAY :—

Average cost of a Primary Board School in Bengal.

*4. (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state the average initial cost of starting a Primary Board School in Bengal as also the average monthly cost of maintaining, and the average daily attendance in, such a school?

(*b*) Is it a fact that the establishment of a Board School is generally accompanied with the disappearance of other primary schools in the neighbourhood?

The Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN replied :—

(*a*) (*i*) "The initial cost of starting a Board Primary School (including construction and equipment) varies from Rs. 600 to Rs. 1,000.

(*ii*) The average monthly cost of maintaining a Board Primary School is Rs. 18 a month for an Upper Primary School and Rs. 10 for a Lower Primary School.

(*iii*) The following table indicates the average daily attendance in Board Schools :—

Name of Division.				Average number of daily attendance in a Board School.
Presidency Division	...	...	...	39·5
Burdwan ,,	...	...	...	43
Rajshahi ,,	...	...	...	32
Dacca ,,	...	...	...	39
Chittagong ,,	...	...	...	47·3

(*b*) In view of the fact that the scheme for the establishment of Board Primary Schools has been in operation for a short period only, it is not possible at this stage to give any definite answer to this question."

By the Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH RAY :—

System of open-air teaching and direct instruction from nature.

*5. (*a*) Has the attention of the Government been drawn to the system of open-air teaching and direct instruction from nature now under trial in England and America?

(*b*) Are the Government considering the desirability of making experiments on the same lines in selected areas in Bengal?

The Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN replied :—

(*a*) "Government are aware that various experiments in connection with open-air schools have been and are being made in England and America.

(*b*) In dealing with the problem of primary education in this Presidency, the Education Department is keeping in mind these and other experiments, but no final conclusion has as yet been arrived at."

[*Dr. Nilratan Sarkar; Mr. Stephenson; Mr. Samman.*]

By the Hon'ble DR. NILRATAN SARKAR :—

*6. Will the Government be pleased to state how many mufassal dispensaries are furnished with high-power microscopes and accessories for correct clinical diagnosis?

Furnishing mufassal dispensaries with high power microscopes and accessories.

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON replied :—

"There are high power microscopes and accessories for correct clinical diagnosis in 35 hospitals and dispensaries in the mufassal."

By the Hon'ble DR. NILRATAN SARKAR :—

*7. Will the Government be pleased to state in how many sub-divisions of Bengal the medical charge is held by Sub-Assistant Surgeons?

Medical charge in sub-divisions by Sub-Assistant Surgeons.

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON replied :—

"Twenty-four subdivisions are in medical charge of Sub-Assistant Surgeons in Bengal."

By the Hon'ble DR. NILRATAN SARKAR :—

*8. What arrangements are there in mufassal hospitals for nursing inmates of the wards set apart for infectious diseases?

Arrangements in mufassal hospitals for nursing inmates of wards set apart for infectious diseases.

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON replied :—

"The Hon'ble Member is referred to the answer given to Question No. 2 asked by the Hon'ble Nawab Saiyid Hossam Haider Chaudhuri at the Council Meeting held on 1st September, 1913."

By the Hon'ble DR. NILRATAN SARKAR :—

*9. Will the Government be pleased to state whether any Indians who have won distinction in clinical research work are to be appointed to any of the higher posts in the proposed School of Tropical Medicine?

Appointment of Indians in the proposed School of Tropical Medicine.

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON replied :—

"The question of staff is still under consideration."

By the Hon'ble DR. NILRATAN SARKAR :—

*10. (*a*) Are the Government aware that the conservancy arrangements prevailing in the city of Dacca are backward and inefficient, and as such call for urgent attention?

Conservancy arrangements in the city of Dacca.

(*b*) Is it a fact that there are in Dacca a considerable number of wells used as midden privies and that these are not accessible to mehtar service?

(*c*) Are the Government considering the desirability of making a grant for meeting the sanitary needs of the city in question?

The Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN replied :—

"The answers are all in the affirmative."

[*Dr. Nilratan Sarkar; Mr. Samman; Babu S. N. Banerji.*]

By the Hon'ble DR. NILRATAN SARKAR:—

Appointment of two Deputy Directors of Public Instruction.

*11. (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether there is any proposal at present under their consideration for the appointment of two Deputy Directors of Public Instruction?

(*b*) If so, will the Government kindly state whether this is part of any contemplated change in the general scheme of education in the Province?

(*c*) If the answer to question (*a*) be in the affirmative, will the Government be pleased to state—

(*i*) what the relation between the two proposed officers and the Director of Public Instruction is to be; and

(*ii*) whether the jurisdiction of these officers will be territorial, as in the case of Deputy Inspectors-General of Police?

The Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN replied:—

"The Hon'ble Member is referred to the answer given to a similar question asked by the Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Banerji at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 1st September, 1913. The position is unchanged."

By the Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI:—

Difficulty of admission of students into colleges in Bengal.

*12. (*a*) Is it a fact that a very large number of students, who passed the last Matriculation and I. A. and I. Sc. Examinations, have failed to secure admission in any college in Bengal?

(*b*) Have the Government any information as to the total number of boys who have failed to obtain such admission?

(*c*) Are the Government considering the desirability of making any arrangement to provide for the further prosecution of their studies by these boys?

The Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN replied:—

(*a*), (*b*) "Government have no accurate information as to the number of students who passed the Matriculation and I. A. and I. Sc. Examinations in 1914 but have failed to obtain admission into any college in Bengal. It is the practice of students to apply simultaneously for admission to several colleges, and in the great majority of cases they secure admission to one or other of the institutions.

(*c*) Government are not considering the advisability of making any temporary arrangements, but this Council is aware of the proposals for the establishment of a new University and new colleges at Dacca."

By the Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI:—

Inadequate board and lodging accommodation in Calcutta for students of certain communities.

*13. Has the attention of the Government been drawn to the fact that the students of the Namasudra and other similar communities experience great hardship in securing board and lodging accommodation in Calcutta?

The Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN replied:—

"Government are aware that not only in Calcutta but also in the mufassal the students of the Namasudra and other similar communities find difficulty in securing board and lodging accommodation. The matter is receiving the sympathetic attention of Government. Special hostels for Namasudras have already been established at Dacca, Brakandi (Faridpur) and Barisal; for Yogis at Chittagong and Comilla; and for Rajbansis at Rangpur. Other cases in the mufassal are under consideration. As regards

Calcutta, the mess scheme which is under the administration of the University and is subsidised by Government, aims at providing hostel accommodation for Indian students of all classes. The Governor in Council is confident that the claims of Namasudras and similar caste will not be overlooked by the University."

By the Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI :—

Admission to the Physical Department of the M. Sc. class of the Presidency College.

*14. Is it a fact that, in granting admission to the Physical Department of the M. Sc. class of the Presidency College this year, students from other colleges who stood high in order of merit at the B. Sc. Examination have been passed over in favour of students of the Presidency College, although the latter occupied lower places at the last B. Sc. Examination ?

The Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN replied :—

"Students passing the B.Sc. Examination from the Presidency College are entitled to promotion to the M. Sc. classes of that College if they shew themselves fit for the higher course of study. They are not liable to be turned out in favour of students who have passed the B. Sc. from other colleges merely because the latter took a higher place on the list.

In accordance with this principle, some students of the Presidency College who did not obtain honours in the B. Sc. Examination have been admitted to the M. Sc. classes, whereas some students from other colleges who did obtain honours had to be refused admission for want of accommodation."

By the Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI :—

Narayangunge High English School.

*15. (*a*) Is it a fact that Mr. Stapleton, Inspector of Schools in the Dacca Division, issued instructions to the authorities of the Narayangunge High English School to curtail the number of boys in the upper classes of that school ?

(*b*) If so, under what authority were those instructions issued ?

The Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN replied :—

"The answer is in the negative."

By the Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI :—

High English schools in Mymensingh.

*16. (*a*) Is it a fact that the existing High English schools in Mymensingh are unable to comply with the demand for new admissions ?

(*b*) Does this state of things prevail in any other town of Bengal ?

(*c*) If so, are the Government considering the desirability of establishing or encouraging the establishment of new High English schools in those localities ?

The Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN replied :—

(*a*) "It is a fact that all the existing High English schools in Mymensingh are overcrowded.

(*b*) This is not peculiar to Mymensingh.

(*c*) The establishment of new High English schools under such circumstances is not a matter in which Government can always, or even as a general rule, take the initiative; but any request for assistance will be carefully considered, if received through the proper channel."

[*Babu S. N. Banerji; Mr. Cumming; Mr. Stephenson; The President; Dr. D. P. Sarbadhikari.*]

By the Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI :—

Control of village chaukidars.

*17. (*a*) Are the village chaukidars under the dual control of both the Presidents of Panchayats and the Chief Police-officers of the thanas?

(*b*) If so, are the Government considering the desirability of abolishing this system of dual control?

The Hon'ble MR. CUMMING replied :—

(*a*) "A reference to the Chaukidari Act and Chaukidari Manual will show that in districts where President Panchayats have been appointed, chaukidars have duties to perform under both the President of Panchayat and the officer in charge of the police-station.

(*b*) The subject of chaukidari administration is under consideration; but this question is not being specifically considered at present."

By the Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI :—

Dietary allowance to European and Indian patients in the Medical College and Campbell School Hospitals.

*18. Will the Government be pleased to state the rates of dietary allowance per diem given in the Medical College and Campbell School Hospitals to European and Indian patients, respectively?

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON replied :—

"The dietary allowance per diem is as follows :—

	As.	P.
European patients	12	0
Indian patients	4	6

Supplementary question.

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI asked the following supplementary question :—

"Will the Government consider the advisability of taking action with a view to raising the daily dietary allowance of Indian patients in the hospitals?"

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON replied :—

"I think that question is rather a request for action than one for information, and is therefore out of order."

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI :—

"I desire to get information on this matter from Government, and therefore press the question."

The PRESIDENT said :—

"Order. I am afraid that this question is one that cannot be allowed under our rules, as it is not a request for information."

By the Hon'ble DR. DEBA PRASAD SARBADHIKARI :—

The Provincial Educational Service.

*19. Will the Government be pleased to state—

(*i*) what is the strength of the Provincial Educational Service as now constituted, class by class; and

(*ii*) whether it is a fact that about one-third of the average period of service of an officer must, in existing circumstances, be spent in the lowest class before he is eligible for promotion to the next higher class?

[*Mr. Samman ; Dr. D. P. Sarbadhikari.*]

The Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN replied :—

(*i*) "The present strength of the Provincial Educational Service is shown below class by class :—

Class	I	...	...	5
"	II	...	...	8
"	III	...	...	9
"	IV	...	...	13
"	V	...	...	16
"	VI	...	...	22
"	VII	...	...	32
"	VIII	...	...	52
		Total	...	157

(*ii*) The answer is in the negative."

By the Hon'ble DR. DEBA PRASAD SARBADHIKARI :—

*20. Will the Government be pleased to state—

(*i*) whether the date of the appointment of an officer to the Provincial Educational Service determines the question of his seniority in the amalgamated service ; and

(*ii*) if not, what other principle or factor determines such seniority ?

The Provinc Educational S vice.

The Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN replied :—

"The general principle for deciding the relative position of officers in the Provincial Educational Service is that an officer's seniority in a grade is determined by the date of his admission to that grade.

When the cadres of Bengal and Eastern Bengal and Assam were amalgamated, this principle was strictly followed in the case of officers who had been appointed or promoted to the Provincial Educational Service after the first partition of Bengal in 1905. In the case of officers who were already in the Provincial Educational Service at the time of the first partition, strict adherence to this principle would have operated unevenly, for the flow of ordinary promotion was not equal in the two provinces. It was therefore decided that the relative position of those officers who had been in the Provincial Educational Service at the time of the first partition should ordinarily be decided according to their position on the list at that time. Exception was made in the case of those officers who had in the interval been given special promotion and of those who had been degraded or whose promotion had been stopped as a punishment. To avoid hardship in individual cases it was further decided that no officer should lose a grade on account of the re-amalgamation of the cadres, but that if at the date of the re-partition an officer in one province was in a grade lower than one or more junior officers in the other province he should on subsequent promotion to the higher grade at once resume his proper position above his juniors in that grade unless there were any special reason to the contrary."

By the Hon'ble DR. DEBA PRASAD SARBADHIKARI :—

*21. (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state what is the method of selection of text-books obtaining in the Dacca, Chittagong and Rajshahi Divisions ?

Method of sel tion of te books obtaining the Dacca, Chit gong and Rajsh Divisions.

(*b*) Is there in vogue in these divisions a system of further confidential examination, by experts, of text-books approved by the Text-Book Committee with a view to their final selection ?

[*Mr. Samman; Dr. D. P. Sarbadhikari; Maharaja of Nashipur.*]

The Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN replied :—

(*a*) "The method of selection of text-books in the Dacca, Chittagong and Rajshahi Divisions is governed by the rules published in Eastern Bengal and Assam Notification No. 5087 C., of the 23rd April, 1907, with the modification that the Director of Public Instruction is no longer required to submit his recommendations to Government, but has power to pass final orders himself.

(*b*) The answer is in the negative."

By the Hon'ble DR. DEBA PRASAD SARBADHIKARI :—

Vacancies in the different classes in the Provincial Educational Services.

*22. (*a*) With reference to the reply given by the Government on 2nd July to my question relating to the number of vacancies existing in the different classes of the Provincial Educational Service, will the Government be pleased to explain the discrepancy between the figures as given in that reply and those indicated in the Bengal Civil List dated April 1st, 1914 ?

(*b*) Will the Government also be pleased to state how these excess vacancies have been filled ?

The Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN replied :—

(*a*) "The discrepancy noticed by the Hon'ble Member is due to the fact that certain posts which have been transferred to the Province of Bihar and Orissa have not yet been excluded from the Bengal Civil List.

The necessary correction will be made in the next issue.

(*b*) When these posts are excluded there will be no excess vacancies."

By the Hon'ble MAHARAJA RANAJIT SINHA OF NASHIPUR :—

Middle English Vernacular competitive examinations.

*23. Will the Government be pleased to state whether they have come to any final decision regarding the Middle English Vernacular competitive examinations ?

The Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN replied :—

"The answer is in the negative."

By the Hon'ble MAHARAJA RANAJIT SINHA OF NASHIPUR :—

Admission of students into the Nawab Bahadur's Institution, Murshidabad.

*24. (*a*) Is it a fact that about 200 students were refused admission into the Nawab Bahadur's Institution, Murshidabad, this session ?

(*b*) Is it a fact that among them there was a good number of local students ?

(*c*) Is it a fact that there is not sufficient accommodation in the school building to accommodate even local students ?

(*d*) If so, will the Government be pleased to state what steps (if any) they are taking in the matter ?

The Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN replied :—

(*a*) "The answer is in the affirmative.

(*b*) Only nineteen local students were refused admission. The reason for this refusal was that their applications were not received till after the classes had been filled.

(*c*) The answer is in the negative."

By the Hon'ble MAHARAJA RANAJIT SINHA OF NASHIPUR—

*25. (a) Is it a fact that the sanitation of the Murshidabad Municipality is deteriorating and that the population of the town is on the decrease owing to a steady increase in the death-rate?

Sanitation of the Murshidabad Municipality.

(b) If so, will the Government be pleased to state what steps (if any) they are taking to improve the sanitation of the said Municipality?

The Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN replied :—

(a) "The sanitation of the Murshidabad Municipality is reported to be deteriorating. Inquiries, however, show that although since 1872 the population has declined steadily at the rate of about 300 souls a year, the death-rate has fallen from 51·37 per mille in 1901-36·72 per mille in 1911-13. The decline in the population, therefore, is mainly due not to heavier mortality but to the rapidly diminishing importance of Murshidabad as an industrial centre.

(b) The initiative in any measures of sanitation for the Murshidabad Municipality should be taken by the Municipal Commissioners. Government will be pleased to give careful consideration to any such schemes as are submitted to them through the proper channel."

By the Hon'ble MAHARAJA RANAJIT SINHA OF NASHIPUR:—

*26. (a) Is it a fact that the Government have received an application from the Commissioners of the Murshidabad Municipality for a grant of Rs. 5,000 for jungle-cutting?

Jungle-cutting in the Murshidabad Municipality.

(b) If so, will the Government be pleased to state what orders they have passed in the matter?

The Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN replied :—

(a) "An application from the Commissioners of the Murshidabad Municipality for a grant of Rs. 5,000 for jungle-cutting was received on the 25th August.

(b) The matter is under consideration."

By the Hon'ble MAHARAJA RANAJIT SINHA OF NASHIPUR :—

*27. (a) Is it a fact that a water-works scheme for the Murshidabad Municipality was prepared under the direction of Mr. Williams, Sanitary Engineer, some time ago?

Water-works scheme for the Murshidabad Municipality.

(b) Are the Government aware that the income of the said Municipality is gradually decreasing and is insufficient to meet the maintenance cost of the said water-works?

(c) Is it a fact that for the above reason Mr. Milne, the present District Magistrate of Murshidabad, is seeking to provide the Municipality with a modified water-works scheme for each ward?

(d) If so, will the Government be pleased to state whether they are considering the desirability of instructing the Sanitary Engineer to co-operate with the District Officer in this matter and arranging to provide the Municipality with money for carrying out these schemes?

The Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN replied :—

"A water-works scheme for the Murshidabad Municipality was drawn up by the Sanitary Engineer in 1909, but was dropped by the Municipal Commissioners for financial reasons early in 1910. Since then the income

of the Municipality has slightly increased, but its financial position is not yet strong. No application has reached Government for a revival of the scheme, and Government do not know what action is being taken by the District Magistrate in the matter. At one time it was hoped that private subscriptions would be forthcoming, but the latest information received by Government showed that local interest in the scheme was dead."

By the Hon'ble MAHARAJA RANAJIT SINHA OF NASHIPUR :—

'Insanitary Magura.'

*28. (*a*) With reference to the reply given by the Hon'ble Mr. Donald to my question asked at the Council meeting of the 1st September, 1913, will the Government be pleased to state whether they have since received a copy of the pamphlet entitled "Insanitary Magura," written by Babu Rebati Kanta Sirkar?

(*b*) If so, what steps (if any) have they taken in the matter?

The Hon'ble Mr. SAMMAN replied :—

(*a*) "The pamphlet entitled 'Insanitary Magura,' written by Babu Rebati Kanta Sirkar, has since been received.

(*b*) The matter is under consideration, but no further steps can be taken till receipt of the project for the drainage of the Jessore district, which is awaited."

By the Hon'ble MAHARAJA RANAJIT SINHA OF NASHIPUR :—

Drainage scheme for the Krishnagar Municipality.

*29. Will the Government be pleased to state whether the drainage scheme for the Krishnagar Municipality has been prepared, and, if so, what sum of money the Government have contributed towards the same?

The Hon'ble Mr. SAMMAN replied :—

"A drainage scheme for the Krishnagar Municipality has been prepared. The question of Government contribution is now under consideration."

By the Hon'ble MAHARAJA RANAJIT SINHA OF NASHIPUR :—

Pasture land for cattle-grazing in rural areas.

*30. Will the Government be pleased to state what action (if any) they are taking to provide pasture land for cattle-grazing in the rural areas of the Presidency?

The Hon'ble Mr. KERR replied :—

"The Hon'ble Member is referred to the answer given in this Council on the 13th January, 1914, to a question put on the same subject by the Hon'ble Nawab Saiyid Hossam Haidar Chaudhuri, Khan Bahadur. The following action has been taken in regard to the measures which were then under the consideration of Government :—

(1) It has been ruled that the purchase of land for grazing purposes is not within the powers of District Boards under the Local Self-Government Act, but that there is no objection to District Boards letting out for grazing purposes any land which may be at their disposal.

(2) The Board of Revenue has addressed Commissioners of Divisions and District Officers on the subject of the provision of grazing lands in Government estates, and it is proposed to take systematic action for this purpose.

(3) Experiments in the growth of fodder crops are being made on the Rangpur Dairy Farm."

[*Maharaja of Nashipur ; Mr. Cumming ; Radha Charan Pal.*]

By the Hon'ble MAHARAJA RANAJIT SINHA OF NASHIPUR—

*31. (*a*) Are the Government aware that personal service of summonses on witnesses and defendants is now-a-days insisted upon by all the civil courts ?

Personal servi of summons civil courts.

(*b*) Is it a fact that even petty cases have often to be adjourned for want of personal service ?

(*c*) If so, will the Government be pleased to state what action (if any) they propose to take in the matter ?

The Hon'ble MR. CUMMING replied :—

"No reference on the subject has been made by the civil courts and no complaints have been received. Government, as at present advised, do not propose to take any action in the matter."

By the Hon'ble MAHARAJA RANAJIT SINHA OF NASHIPUR :—

*32. (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether any memorial from the process-serving peons of Bagerhat in the district of Khulna has been received ?

Memorial fro the process-servi peons of Bagerha

(*b*) If so, what orders have been passed thereon ?

The Hon'ble MR. CUMMING replied :—

"The answer is in the negative. Reference is invited to the answer to Question No. XXVI (*b*) (unstarred) that Government are considering the desirability of increasing the pay of process-serving peons."

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS.

By the Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR :—

I.—(*a*) Has the attention of the Government been drawn to the Beadon Street murder case of April last, in which one Kanhai Lal Sreemani was charged with the murder of one Bejoy Behari Sett, and three persons named Lalit Mohan Dhar, Hem Chander Das and Manmotha with abetment of the commission of the said offence ?

Beadon Stre murder case.

(*b*) On what date did the murder take place, and in what circumstances ?

(*c*) What steps were taken to bring the culprits to justice ?

(*d*) In what circumstances did the case fail in the High Court Sessions ?

(*e*) Are the Government considering the desirability of taking any further action in the matter ?

The following reply by the Hon'ble MR. CUMMING was laid on the table :—

(*a*) "Yes.

(*b*) On the 22nd April, 1914, one Bejoy Behari Sett of Beniapukur with four friends came to Beadon Square in a hackney carriage. In the early part of the day all five had drunk heavily at a local grog shop ; and, in the afternoon, when driving through Garanhatta, they met some members of another party with whom they were at variance. A fight ensued ; and in the melee Bejoy Behari Sett was stabbed and died shortly after from his wounds.

(*c*) The accused connected with the case were arrested and sent up for trial.

[*Mr. Cumming; Radha Charan Pal; Mr. Samman.*]

(*d*) The case failed because the deceased's friends and the coachman were intoxicated at the time of the occurrence, and were therefore unable to give a clear account of what happened; also it appears that the prosecution witnesses, who seem to have been the aggressors, did not give the true facts of the case. There were no independent witnesses.

(*e*) Inquiries are being made to ascertain if there is evidence to prosecute any persons under section 110 of the Criminal Procedure Code."

By the Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR:—

Want of employment amongst the educated middle-classes of Bengal.

II.—(*a*) Are the Government aware that the general question of employment has become very acute amongst the educated middle-classes of Bengal?

(*b*) Are the Government considering the desirability of taking any steps to open out new avenues of occupation for the unemployed amongst these classes?

The following reply by the Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN was laid on the table:—

(*a*) & (*b*) "Government have no precise information but are aware that there is much complaint of a general nature as to the difficulty experienced by the educated middle-classes of Bengal in finding employment. Competition for appointments under Government is very keen; but the number of these posts is determined by the requirements of the public service and cannot be increased to meet the growing demand for employment among the educated middle-classes. It appears to Government that the industries of Bengal offer good openings for men with technical knowledge of a practical kind. Government are now considering schemes for the improvement of technical and industrial education in this Province and its organization in such a way as to bring the students into close touch with employers of labour and fit them for remunerative employment in industrial concerns. It is however plain that no scheme of this sort can solve the question referred to unless the members of the educated middle-classes are themselves prepared to make full use of the educational facilities offered and afterwards to do the actual practical work required for success in such profession."

By the Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR:—

Excavation of Private tanks.

III.—(*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state the conditions in which District and Local Boards are permitted to make pecuniary grants towards excavation of private tanks?

(*b*) Is it a fact that owners of private tanks are generally reluctant to avail themselves of these grants in the existing conditions?

(*c*) If so, are the Government considering the desirability of modifying those conditions?

The following reply by the Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN was laid on the table:—

(*a*), (*b*) & (*c*) "The Hon'ble Member is referred to sections 79, 88 and 101 of the Local Self-Government Act III (B. C.) of 1885. The question of making rules prescribing conditions precedent to the making of such contributions was carefully considered in the year 1909, but it was eventually decided not to make any such rules. District Boards have, therefore, a free hand in the matter."

By the Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR:—

Establishment of excise licensing Boards at Dacca and other places.

IV.—Are the Government considering the desirability of establishing excise licensing Boards at Dacca and other principal towns in the Presidency, similar to those existing at Calcutta, Howrah, and Bally?

[*Mr. Stephenson; Radha Charan Pal; Mr. Kerr.*]

The following reply by the Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON was laid on the table :—

"The question is not at present under consideration."

By the Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR :—

V.—Are the Government considering the desirability of appointing a Committee of experts to suggest measures for the increase of fish-supply in Bengal? Increase of fish supply in Bengal

The following reply by the Hon'ble MR. KERR was laid on the table :—

"The answer is in the negative. Government are not aware of the existence of any experts from whom such a Committee could be formed. The Bengal Fishery Department was organised in December, 1911, under a Deputy Director, in order to control hatcheries, to introduce and maintain fishery regulations, and to encourage the development of the fish-supply of the province. A Fishery Board consisting of certain Government officials and of representatives of the Commercial Community and the land-owners of the province has also been constituted to advise and assist the Officer-in-charge of the Department and to stimulate public interest in matters concerning fisheries, but it has not so far been able to accomplish very much, as the main work of the Fishery Department hitherto has been the investigation of the conditions of the fisheries throughout the wide area covered by the provinces of Bengal and Bihar and Orissa. The Deputy Director reports that the time is now ripe for initiating experimental work of an economic nature, and it is hoped that when practical operations have been started, the Fishery Board will be able to give the Department valuable assistance in attaining the objects which it has in view."

By the Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR :—

VI.—(*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state what arrangements exist at present for bringing home to cultivators the latest improvements in agriculture? Improvements agriculture.

(*b*) Are the Government considering the desirability of having practical demonstrations held at suitable places in the vicinity of cultivators' holdings?

The following reply by the Hon'ble MR. KERR was laid on the table :—

(*a*) "The arrangements which are made for bringing agricultural improvements to the notice of the cultivators are of two kinds :—

(1) the publication of leaflets, which are distributed free, and of an agricultural year-book in Bengali which is sold for six annas a copy, besides being supplied free to panchayats, masters of middle vernacular and primary schools, members of the agricultural association and the Press;

(2) the ocular demonstration of the results obtained at the Government farms and also in the villages through the agency of trained demonstrators.

(*b*) Arrangements have already been made for carrying out practical demonstration work in the villages. The demonstrators, who usually belong to the cultivating class, are first instructed in the proper conduct of improvements suitable to the locality to which they are deputed, such as the use of manures and improved implements, the cultivation of superior varieties of crops, and the application of special methods of cultivation. Each demonstrator is usually in charge of about twelve plots of land, which are provided by local zamindars and raiyats by members of the agricultural association. The demonstrator is responsible for supervising the agricultural operations on

the selected plots, and for keeping a careful record of the results achieved, which are made known as widely as possible in the locality. The demonstrators also assist the cultivators in the matter of seed selection. Fifty-four demonstrators are at present employed, and arrangements are being made to train others."

By the Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR.

Admission into the Presidency College.

VII.—(*a*) Has the attention of the Government been drawn to the complaints made regarding the difficulties experienced by students in obtaining admission into the Presidency College, Calcutta?

(*b*) How many students have applied for admission this year, and how many of the applicants were admitted and how many were refused admission?

(*c*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether any uniform rules are observed in granting or refusing admission into this institution?

(*d*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether the subordinate staff of this college has any authority to dispose of applications for admission, or is this duty restricted solely to the Principal of the college?

(*e*) In view of the present great demand for admission, are the Government taking any action to facilitate the admission of students into this institution?

The following reply by the Hon'ble Mr. SAMMAN was laid on the table:—

(*a*) "Representations on this subject have from time to time been received by Government.

(*b*) A statement giving the information for which the Hon'ble Member asks is laid on the table.

(*d*) Uniform rules are observed.

(*e*) No. The responsibility rests solely on the Principal.

(*f*) No. The accommodation in the College is limited and students cannot be admitted in excess of its capacity."

Statement referred to in the answer by the Hon'ble Mr. Samman to Question No. VII (unstarred) asked by the Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur at the Council meeting of the 1st September, showing the number of students who applied for admission during the year 1914 in the Presidency College and the number admitted and refused admission.

Number of applications for admission.	Number admitted.	Number refused.
I.A. 242	75	167
I.Sc. 178	72	106
B.A. 305	83	219
B.Sc. 216	83	126
M.A. 132	96	36
M.Sc. 115	59	56

[*Radha Charan Pal; Mr. Samman.*]

By the Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR :—

Certain statist with regard to t Presidency Colle

VIII.—Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table information on the following points :—

(*i*) the maximum number of students for whom accommodation is provided in the Presidency College in M.A., M.Sc., B.A., B.Sc., I.A. and I.Sc. classes ;

(*ii*) the number of students on the rolls of the college at present in these classes ;

(*iii*) the number of admissions to 1st and 3rd year classes this year for the B.A., B.Sc., I.A. and I.Sc. courses ;

(*iv*) the number of applications for admission under each of the foregoing heads ?

The following reply by the Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN was laid on the table :—

"A statement giving the information desired is laid on the table."

(1) *Maximum accommodation*—

	1st year.	2nd year.	Total.
I.A.	65	85	150
I.Sc.	65	80	145
	130	165	295

	3rd year.	4th year.	
B.A.	75	100	175
B.Sc.	80	100	180
	155	200	355
			650

M.A.	English ...	40	M.Sc.	Mathematics	25
	History ...	30		Chemistry	10
	Political Philosophy	30		Physics ...	18
				Geology ...	16
				Physic ...	6
		100			75

(2) *Number of students on the rolls*—

	1st year.	2nd year.	Total.
I.A.	75	83	158
I.Sc.	72	74	146
	147	157	304

	3rd year.	4th year.	
B.A.	83	100	183
B.Sc.	83	113	196
	166	213	379
			683

[*Mr. Samman; Radha Charan Pal.*]

		5th year.	6th year.	Total.
M.A.	... ...	96	86	182
M.Sc.	... ...	59	49	108
		155	135	290

		5th year.			6th year.
English	...	44	English	...	39
Philosophy	...	11	Philosophy	...	...
Economics	...	21	Economics	...	30
History	...	20	History	...	17
Mathematics	...	23	Mathematics	...	13
Physics	...	18	Physics	...	19
Chemistry	...	16	Chemistry	...	12
Geology	...	2	Geology	...	4
Physiology	...	...	Physiology	...	1
		59			49
		155			135

(3) *Number of admissions—*

I.A	...	75
I.Sc.	...	72
B.A.	...	83
B.Sc.	...	83
M.A.	...	96
M.Sc.	...	59

(4) *Number of applications received—*

I.A.	...	242	420	
I.Sc.	...	178		
B.A.	302	3*	511	* Subsequently admitted.
B.Sc.	209	7*		
M.A.		132		
M.Sc.		115		

M.A.	English	70	M.Sc.	Mathematics	33
	Philosophy	11		Physics	39
	History	22		Chemistry	32
	Political Philosophy	29		Geology	3
				Physiology	8
		132			115

By the Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR :—

Teaching of Geology and Physiology.

IX.—(*a*) Is it a fact that there is no college in Calcutta teaching Geology and Physiology except the Presidency College?

(*b*) If so, are the Government considering the desirability of making arrangements for intercollegiate or independent lectures on these subjects at other Calcutta colleges?

The following reply by the Hon'ble Mr. SAMMAN was laid on the table :—

(*a*) "The answer is in the affirmative. (*b*) The answer is in the negative."

[*Radha Charan Pal; Mr. Samman.*]

By the Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR :—

X.—Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing— Sibpur Engineering College.

(*i*) the accommodation in the various classes of the Sibpur Engineering College ;

(*ii*) the number of students admitted this year ; and

(*iii*) the number of candidates who applied for admission ?

The following reply by the Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN was laid on the table :—

"A statement giving the information desired by the Hon'ble Member is laid on the table."

Statement referred to in the answer by the Hon'ble Mr. Samman to Question No. X (unstarred) asked by the Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur at the Council meeting of the 1st September, 1914, showing certain statistics regarding the Sibpur Engineering College.

The maximum limit to residential accommodation is as follows :—

DEPARTMENT.	Hindus.	Anglo-Indians.	Muhammadans.	Total.
Apprentice	182	36	8	226
Engineer	80	6	8	94
Dyeing	No seats are reserved. Admitted to barracks if there be room. Hours of attendance suitable for outsiders.			
Total ...	262	42	16	320

[*Mr. Samman; Radha Charan Pal.*]

Statement showing admissions and applications for admission to the Civil Engineering College, Sibpur, for the year 1913-14.

	Applications received for admission	Admitted.	Re-admitted.	Total admissions and re-admissions.
Engineer Department.				
1st year	96	32	7	39
2nd year ...	...	...	9	9
3rd year ...	...	...	6	6
4th year ...	...	...	1	1
TOTAL ...	96	32	23	55
Apprentice Department.				
1st year	58	22	7	29
2nd year—B Final ...	12	8	14	22
3rd year—Sub-Overseer.	57(*a*)	44(*a*)	7	51
4th year	...	...	8	8
TOTAL ...	127	74	36	110

(*a*) This figure includes 31 C. E. C. candidates admitted to Overseer class

By the Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR :—

Eden High School for Girls.

XI.—(*a*) Has the attention of Government been drawn to certain allegations which have been made from time to time against the management of the Eden High School for Girls and the attached hostel ?

(*b*) What action, if any, are Government taking in the matter ?

The following reply by the Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN was laid on the table :—

"The Hon'ble Member is referred to the answer given to a similar question at the Council meeting of 5th August."

By the Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR :—

Admission into the Medical College, Calcutta.

XII.—(*a*) Has the attention of the Government been drawn to the complaints made regarding the difficulties experienced by students in obtaining admission into the Medical College, Calcutta ?

(*b*) How many students have applied for admission this year, and how many of the applicants were admitted and how many were refused admission ?

(*c*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether any uniform rules are observed in granting or refusing admission into this institution ?

(*d*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether the subordinate staff of this college has any authority to dispose of applications for admission, or is this duty restricted solely to the Principal of the college ?

[*Radha Charan Pal: Mr. Stephenson; Babu S. N. Ray.*]

(*e*) In view of the present great demand for admission, are the Government taking any action to facilitate the admission of students into this institution?

The following reply by the Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON was laid on the table :—

(*a*) "Government are aware that there are more applications for admission to the Medical College than can be granted, but no specific complaints as to any other difficulties have been made to Government.

(*b*) The Hon'ble Member is referred to the answer given to-day to a similar question by the Hon'ble Dr. Nilratan Sarkar.

(*d*) The Hon'ble Member is referred to the answer given to-day to a similar question by the Hon'ble Dr. Nilratan Sarkar.

(*e*) The subordinate staff of the college has no authority to dispose of applications for admission.

(*f*) It is not practicable to enlarge the scope of the colleges and the allied hospitals so as to increase the number of admissions."

By the Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR :—

XIII.—Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing the accommodation in the various classes of the Calcutta Medical College?

Accommodatio in the variou classes of th Calcutta Medic College.

The following reply by the Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON was laid on the table :—

"The accommodation for practical classes is as follows :—

	Students
Practical Biology	61
„ Chemistry	125
„ Physics	70
Dissecting Class	400
Normal Histology	96
Physiological Chemistry	61
Practical Physiology	48
„ Bacteriology	105
Morbid Histology	105

By the Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH RAY :—

XIV.—Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a comparative statement of the mileage of existing railways in the several divisions of this Presidency as also a statement setting out the various proposals for adding to the existing railway systems in the Dacca Division which are now under the consideration of the Railway Board?

Mileage existing railwa Proposals adding to existing rail systems in Dacca Division

[*Mr. Green; Babu S. N. Ray; Mr. Samman.*]

The following reply by the Hon'ble Mr. GREEN was laid on the table:—

"Government have not got the information required by the Hon'ble Member, but a statement prepared from the Railway map is laid on the table."

Statement referred to in the answer by the Hon'ble Mr. Green to Question No. XIV (unstarred) asked by the Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Ray at the Council meeting of the 1st September, 1914, giving the mileage of railway lines in the several divisions of Bengal.

Divisions.	Gauges.			Total mileage in each division.
	Standard (mileage).	Metre (mileage).	Special (mileage).	
1. Burdwan ...	713*	Nil	96·50	809·50
2. Presidency ...	565·25*	Nil	108	673·25
3. Rajshahi ...	Nil	726·50	66·75	793·25
4. Dacca	Nil	204·45	Nil	204·45
5. Chittagong ...	Nil	220	Nil	220·00

* Including Port Trust Railways.

By the Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH RAY:—

Allotments of the Imperial grant for Primary Education.

XV.—Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing the allotments of the Imperial grant for Primary education in the various districts, the amounts spent in each district, and the items on which the money has been or is to be spent?

The following reply by the Hon'ble Mr. SAMMAN was laid on the table:—

The allotments for Primary education for 1913-1914 were:—

A.—Recurring grant of Rs. 6,00,000 to be expended for the following purposes:—

(i) Increasing the pay of teachers in Primary Schools.

(ii) Maintenance of Board Primary Schools.

B.—Recurring grant of Rs. 3,33,000 (exclusively for East Bengal) to be expended for the following purposes:—

(i) Maintenance of Board Primary Schools.

(ii) Construction of Board Primary Schools.

(iii) Construction of other Primary Schools.

C.—Non-recurring grant of Rs. 13,65,000 to be expended for the following purposes:—

(i) Construction of Board Primary Schools.

(ii) Construction of buildings for aided schools.

(iii) Construction of Guru-training Schools.

(iv) Reconstruction and repairs to Guru-training Schools.

(v) Equipment of Primary Schools (scheme maturing).

(vi) Establishment of schools in backward localities (scheme maturing).

[*Mr. Samman.*]

The following tables indicate the amounts allotted to and spent in the various districts under (*A*), (*B*), (*C*) :—

A.

Statement showing the final allotments made to District Boards in this Presidency in 1913-14 out of the Imperial recurring grant of Rs. 6,00,000.

No.	NAME OF DISTRICT.	Amount allotted.	Amount spent.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5
		Rs.	Rs.	
1	24-Parganas ...	24,966	19,983	
2	Nadia	20,054	16 701	
3	Murshidabad ...	17,136	16,709	
4	Jessore	20,580	19,509	
5	Khulna	17,940	17,940	
	Total ...	1,00,676	90,842	
6	Burdwan ...	20,040	19,854	
7	Birbhum ...	16,488	16,197	
8	Bankura ...	20,364	16,207	
9	Midnapore ...	62,832	37,265	
10	Howrah ...	21,324	21,324	
11	Hooghly ...	14,988	9,707	
	Total ...	1,56,036	1,20,554	
12	Dacca	27,120	Figures for the various districts not available from the report of the Inspector of Schools, Dacca Division.	
13	Mymensingh ...	29,184		
14	Faridpur ...	16,824		
15	Bakarganj ...	31,380		
	Total ...	**1,04,508**	**1,01,664**	

[*Mr. Samman.*]

No.	Name of district.	Amount allotted.	Amount spent.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5
		Rs.	Rs.	
16	Tippera	25,216	Figures for the various districts not available from the report of the Inspector of Schools, Chittagong Division.	
17	Noakhali ...	15,900		
18	Chittagong ...	17,508		
	Total ...	58,624	58,624	
19	Rajshahi ...	17,436	16,836	These amounts were spent only in Board areas. No figures available for amounts of expenditure in non-Board areas.
20	Dinajpur ...	18,492	18,328	
21	Jalpaiguri ...	14,280	14,196	
22	Rangpur ...	24,288	22,440	
23	Bogra	13,404	12,440	
24	Pabna	18,096	17,748	
25	Malda	8,976	8,628	
26	Darjeeling ..	3,024	.....*	* Not available.
	Total ...	1,17,996	1,10,616†	† Exclusive of figures for Darjeeling.

The above expenditure was incurred under the following heads :—

(*a*) For increasing the pay of teachers serving in aided Primary Schools and maktabs in Board areas

(*b*) For the maintenance of Board Primary Schools.

(*c*) For increasing the pay of teachers serving in Primary Schools in municipal areas.

B.

Statement showing the final allotments made to District Boards in the Eastern Bengal districts in 1913-14 out of the Imperial Grant of Rs. 3,33,000.

No.	Name of District.	Recurring Expenditure.		Non-recurring Expenditure.	
		Amount allotted.	Amount spent.	Amount allotted.	Amount spent.
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1	Dacca	9,000	9,000	6,000	6,000
2	Mymensingh ...	24,200	24,200	9,937	9,937
3	Faridpur	11,400	8,070	2,600	5,930*
4	Bakarganj	25,540	15,009	2,460	5,641*
	Total ...	70,140	56,279	20,997	27,508
5	Chittagong	9,000	9,000	2,000	4,690
6	Tippera	16,000	16,000	4,000	
7	Noakhali	20,560	20,560	2,440	
	Total ...	45,560	45,560	8,440	4,690
8	Rajshahi	9,000	9,000	2,000	Figures showing amounts of expenditure for Rajshahi Division are not immediately available.
9	Dinajpur	2,000	2,000	1,000	
10	Jalpaiguri	7,000	7,000	2,000	
11	Rangpur	9,816	9,816	3,184	
12	Bogra	16,000	16,000	2,000	
13	Pabna	4,230	4,230	2,770	
14	Malda	1,000	1,000	1,000	
	Total ...	49,046	49,046	13,954	

* The excess expenditure in the case of the Faridpur and Bakarganj districts under the head "Non-recurring expenditure" is due to the employment by the District Boards of a certain amount of the assignment for recurring expenditure on capital objects.

These allotments were spent on the following items :—

(1) Recurring allotments :—Maintenance of Board Primary Schools.

(2) Non-recurring allotments :—Construction of—

(*a*) Board Primary Schools.

(*b*) Other Primary Schools (aided).

[*Mr. Samman.*]

C.

Statement showing the amount allotted and spent in various districts out of the non-recurring grant of Rs. 13,65,000 in the Presidency.

I.—Construction of Board Primary Schools—
II.—Construction of buildings for aided Primary Schools—

	I.		II.	
	Amount allotted.	Amount spent.	Amount allotted.	Amount spent.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1. 24-Parganas ...	13,000	...	8,400	...
2. Nadia	15,000	...	4,800	...
3. Murshidabad ...	6,000	...	6,000	887
4. Jessore	10,000	...	8,000	2,904
5. Khulna	7,000	4,492	5,800	3,800
Total ...	51,000	4,492	33,000	7,591
6. Burdwan ...	6,000	...	9,000	...
7. Birbhum ...	6,000	435	7,600	3,465
8. Bankura ...	8,000	...	8,400	...
9. Hooghly ...	5,000	...	29,200	...
10. Midnapore ...	15,000	...	6,800	...
11. Howrah ...	9,000	...	6,000	200
Total ...	49,000	435	67,000	3,665
12. Dacca	36,700	...	3,200	...
13. Mymensingh ...	28,660	28,660	5,400	...
14. Faridpur ...	46,775	...	2,200	483
15. Bakarganj ...	49,975	49,975	4,000	...
Total ...	1,62,110	78,635	14,800	483
16. Tippera	24,215	18,804	4,800	...
17. Noakhali ...	18,400	5,761	2,800	2,200
18. Chittagong ...	37,520	37,520	4,200	4,200
Total ...	80,135	62,085	11,800	6,400
19. Rajshahi ...	21,750	8,162	2,400	...
20. Dinajpur ...	36,000	36,000	2,000	...
21. Jalpaiguri ...	15,000	6,000	5,000	2,000
22. Rangpur ...	23,650	17,303	4,000	4,000
23. Bogra ...	14,100	10,832	3,000	1,600
24. Pabna ...	24,000	10,034	3,000	...
25. Malda ...	15,320	1,047	4,000	...
Total ...	1,49,820	89,378	23,400	7,600
TOTAL ALLOTMENT ...	4,92,065	2,35,025	1,50,000	25,739

III.—Construction of Guru-training School buildings:—

Grant—Rs. 21,898 at the Director of Public Instruction's disposal, of which Rs. 13,898 was spent in construction of a Guru-training School at Charai in Chittagong Division.

IV.—Re-construction and repairs of Guru-training School buildings:—

Grant—Rs. 75,000, of which Rs. 17,815 was spent in repairing

[*Maulvi A. K. Faz-ul-Haq; Mr. Stephenson; Mr. Cumming.*]

By the Hon'ble MAULVI A. K. FAZ-UL-HAQ :—

XVI.—(*a*) Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing—

Number students adr into the Ca Medical Colle 1914 and number of Mu madans so mitted.

(*i*) how many students were admitted this year into the Calcutta Medical College and what were their educational qualifications?

(*ii*) how many of these students were Muhammadans?

The following reply by the Hon'ble Mr. STEPHENSON was laid on the table :—

(*a*) "The Hon'ble Member is referred to the answer given to-day to a similar question by the Hon'ble Dr. Nilratan Sarkar.

(*b*) The number given includes eight Muhammadans"

By the Hon'ble MAULVI A. K. FAZ-UL-HAQ :—

XVII.—(*a*) Is it a fact that the assistants transferred from the Eastern Bengal and Assam Secretariat and attached offices submitted a representation to Government in respect of the loss suffered by them in consequence of their being deprived of the progressive scale of pay previously enjoyed and remitted to the fixed rate of pay which is in vogue in the Bengal Secretariat and attached offices?

Grievances assistants t ferred from Eastern Bc and Assam S tariat in the m of their pay.

(*b*) If so, will the Government be pleased to state what action, if any, has been taken on such representation?

The following reply by the Hon'ble Mr. STEPHENSON was laid on the table :—

"(*a*) & (*b*) The answer is in the negative."

By the Hon'ble MAULVI A. K. FAZ-UL-HAQ :—

XVIII.—Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement setting out, district by district, the following information :—

Certain st tics re the emp ment of minist officers.

(*a*) the total number of ministerial officers (excluding copyists) at present employed in the offices of—

(*i*) the Collector-Magistrate,

(*ii*) the District and Sessions Judge;

(*iii*) other officers;

(*b*) how many of these officers (in each case) are Muhammadans?

The following reply by the Hon'ble Mr. CUMMING was laid on the table :—

"A statement furnishing information in respect of the offices of Divisional Commissioners, Magistrate-Collectors and District and Sessions Judges is laid on the table. The figures include copyists. Separate figures, exclusive of these, are not available in the returns submitted to Government. Informa-

[*Mr. Cumming.*]

Statement referred to in the answer by the Hon'ble Mr. Cumming to Question No. XVIII asked by the Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Faz-ul-Haq at the Council meeting of the 1st September, 1914.

DISTRICT.	Office of—	Total sanctioned number of ministerial officers.	Total number of Muhammadan ministerial officers.	REMARKS.
	Commissioner of—			
	Burdwan Division.	31	1	
	Presidency Division.	35	2	
	Dacca Division	27	6	
	Chittagong Division.	22	3	
	Rajshahi Division.	26	1	
Burdwan Division—				
Burdwan ...	Collector ...	106	8	
	Judge ...	85	14	
Birbhum ...	Collector ...	49	7	
	Judge ...	66	8	
Bankura ...	Collector ...	55	1	
	Judge ...	66	2	
Midnapore ...	Collector ...	170	17	
	Judge ...	147	9	
Hooghly ...	Collector ...	121	14	
	Judge* ...	135	8	* Also Judge of Howrah.
Howrah ...	Magistrate ...	67	2	
Presidency Division—				
24-Parganas ...	Collector ...	200	23	
	Judge ...	179	11	
Nadia ...	Collector ...	94	13	
	Judge ...	97	9	
Murshidabad	Collector ...	90	12	
	Judge ...	82	7	
Jessore ...	Collector ...	94	18	
	Judge ...	112	21	
	Collector	71	7	

[*Mr. Cumming.*]

District.	Office of—	Total sanctioned number of ministerial officers.	Total number of Muhammadan ministerial officers.	Remarks.
Dacca Division—				
Dacca ...	Collector ...	131	24	
	Judge ...	153	14	
Mymensingh	Collector ...	142	19	
	Judge ...	180	18	
Faridpur ...	Collector ...	116	6	
	Judge ...	117	12	
Bakarganj ...	Collector ...	139	28	
	Judge ...	136	10	
Chittagong Division—				
Chittagong ...	Collector ...	190	56	
	Judge ...	122	31	
Tippera ..	Collector ...	101	23	
	Judge ...	156	35	
Noakhali ...	Collector ...	82	16	
	Judge ...	92	21	
Chittagong Hill-tracts.	Superintendent ...	18	Nil.	
Rajshahi Division—				
Rajshahi ...	Collector ...	92	15	
	Judge* ...	70	27	*Also Judge of Malda.
Dinajpur ...	Collector ...	117	20	
	Judge† ...	77	11	† Also Judge of Jalpaiguri and Darjeeling.
Jalpaiguri ...	Deputy Commissioner.	89	9	
Rangpur ...	Collector ...	142	42	
	Judge ...	98	21	
Bogra ...	Collector ...	81	29	
Pabna ...	Collector ...	114	31	
	Judge‡ ...	83	36	‡ Also Judge of Bogra.
Malda ...	Collector ...	77	18	
Darjeeling ...	Deputy Commissioner.	67	8	

N.B.—The figures for the offices of Collectors and Judges include those for all offices subordinate to them.

[*Maulvi A. K. Faz-ul-Haq; Mr. Stephenson; Mr. Cumming; Dr. Nilratan Sarkar.*]

By the Hon'ble MAULVI A. K. FAZ-UL-HAQ :—

Notification of vacancies in Government offices.

XIX.—(*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether notifications of vacancies in Government offices have been sent to the Bengal Presidency Moslem League or its district branches since the constitution of the Presidency?

(*b*) If so, on how many occasions were the vacancies notified and on how many occasions not notified?

The following reply by the Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON was laid on the table :—

"Government have no information on the subject."

By the Hon'ble MAULVI A. K. FAZ-UL-HAQ :—

Withholding of notifications of vacancies in Government offices from Muhammadan Associations.

XX.—(*a*) Is it a fact that, in spite of standing orders, notifications of vacancies in Government offices have been withheld from Muhammadan Associations, rendering it extremely difficult for Muhammadan candidates to come forward and apply for appointments?

(*b*) If so, what action, if any, are the Government taking in the matter?

The following reply by the Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON was laid on the table :—

(*a*) & (*b*) "There are no standing orders such as are suggested in the question. In a circular, dated the 20th April, 1914, it was desired that heads of offices should supplement the procedure of advertising, when necessary, by invoking the assistance of recognised Muhammadan Associations to secure qualified candidates. Government have no reason to suppose that these instructions are not being carried out."

By the Hon'ble MAULVI A. K. FAZ-UL-HAQ :—

Increase of pay of process-serving peons attached to Civil Courts.

†XXI.—With reference to the answer given to my Question No. VIII (unstarred), at the meeting of Council held at Dacca on the 5th August last, will the Government be pleased to state whether there is any likelihood of a speedy decision in the matter of raising the pay of process-serving peons attached to Civil Courts?

The following reply by the Hon'ble MR. CUMMING was laid on the table :—

"Government are not at present in a position to say when a decision in the matter will be made."

By the Hon'ble DR. NILRATAN SARKAR :—

Malaria in the Tangail and Manickganj subdivisions of the Mymensingh and Dacca districts.

XXII.—(*a*) Has the attention of Government been drawn to the prevalence of malaria this year in the Tangail and Manickganj subdivisions of the Mymensingh and Dacca districts, respectively?

(*b*) Have the Government any information as to the number of deaths from malaria which occurred in these areas between October, 1913, and April, 1914?

(*c*) If so, will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement setting out the said information with reference to the different thanas and in relation to the total population of the areas in question?

(*d*) Have any special measures been taken for the purpose of preventing the spread of disease in, or for the relief of the people resident in, the said areas, and, if so, what localities?

(*e*) Are the Government considering the desirability of holding an

[*Mr. Samman; Dr. Nilratan Sarkar; Mr. Stephenson.*]

The following reply by the Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN was laid on the table :—

(*a*) "The answer is in the affirmative.

(*b*) & (*c*) There are no separate statistics for deaths from malaria. A statement showing the number of deaths from fever for the period from October, 1913, to April, 1914, is laid on the table.

(*d*) & (*e*) Steps have been taken to encourage the sale of quinine in the Tangail subdivision. The prevalence of malaria in the Manikganj subdivision has been under the consideration of the Malaria Committee and a detailed local investigation will shortly be made. The Public Works Department has provided a sum of Rs. 60,000 in the current year's budget for the improvement of the Dhaleswari river."

Statement referred to in the answer by the Hon'ble Mr. Samman to Question No. XXII (unstarred) asked by the Hon'ble Dr. Nilratan Sarkar at the Council meeting of the 1st September, 1914, showing the number of deaths from fever in the Tangail and Manikganj subdivisions for the period from October, 1913, to April, 1914.

FEVER DEATHS.

THANA.	TANGAIL SUBDIVISION.							MANIKGANJ SUBDIVISION.		
	Tangail.	Kalihati.	Gopalpur.	Nagarpur.	Mirzapur.	Ghatail.	Sharishbari.	Manikganj.	Seolo.	Harirampur.
Population	251,943	160,982	218,232	118,371	108,781	95,196	79,905	221,377	114,568	138,867
1913.										
October	382	195	182	260	190	107	81	496	418	200
November	524	206	166	463	197	102	70	637	651	344
December	1,243	366	386	777	303	161	101	1,266	1,306	605
1914										
January	723	250	306	383	190	131	71	613	827	387
February	323	110	197	186	110	77	56	412	528	185
March	467	142	317	272	222	144	93	406	598	277
April	478	182	294	285	205	168	73	368	720	293

By the Hon'ble DR. NILRATAN SARKAR :—

XXIII.—(*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state the number of candidates who have been—

(*i*) admitted, and
(*ii*) refused admission

into the Medical College this year, classified as below :—

(*a*) B.Sc.'s, (*b*) B.A.'s, (*c*) I.Sc.'s, (*d*) I.A.'s, (*e*) Matriculates ?

(*b*) Are the admitted candidates selected according to their position in the University Examination lists ?

(*c*) If not, what is the principle on which candidates for admission are selected ?

The following reply by the Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON was laid on the table :—

(*a*) "The following statement shows the number admitted or refused admission or who were selected, but have not joined :—

	B.Sc.	B.A.	I.Sc.	I.A. or its equivalent.	Matriculates or its equivalent.	Total.
Number admitted	13	4	98	18	21	154
Number refused admission ...	2	1	108	74	312	497
Number selected but not joined ...	6	3	35	4	3	51
Total number of applications ...	21	8	241	96	336	702

[*Babu S. N. Banerji; Mr. Samman; Maharaja of Nashipur; Lt.-Col. Joly de Lotbinière; Mr. Cumming.*]

(*b*) & (*c*) Candidates are admitted by the Principal after due consideration of their qualifications and claims, and the rules prescribe that preference shall usually be given in accordance with the superiority of qualifications. It would be impracticable to classify them according to their position in the University Examination lists and the discretion must remain with the Principal."

By the Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI :—

Number of colleges in Calcutta affiliated to the M.Sc. Standard in Physics of the Calcutta University.

XXIV.—How many colleges in Calcutta are affiliated to the M.Sc. Standard in Physics of the Calcutta University?

The following reply by the Hon'ble Mr. SAMMAN was laid on the table :—

"The Presidency College is the only college affiliated to the M.Sc. Standard in Physics."

By the Hon'ble MAHARAJA RANAJIT SINHA OF NASHIPUR :—

Names of navigable rivers and other waterways in the Presidency which are being gradually silted up.

XXV.—Will the Government be pleased to state the names of the navigable rivers and other waterways in the Presidency which are gradually being silted up and are not navigable throughout the year?

The following reply by the Hon'ble LT.-COL. JOLY DE LOTBINIÈRE was laid on the table :—

"It is impossible for this Government to give a reply to this question with any attempt at accuracy, as many rivers in Bengal are improving in parts, and deteriorating in others. Again some channels are dying and new channels opening up in their place."

Increase of pay of process-serving peons.

By the Hon'ble MAHARAJA RANAJIT SINHA OF NASHIPUR :—

XXVI.—(*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state the present monthly pay of the process-serving peons attached to the Civil, Criminal and Revenue Courts of the Presidency?

(*b*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether they are considering the desirability of increasing the pay of these officers?

The following reply by the Hon'ble Mr. CUMMING was laid on the table :—

(*a*) "The process-servers in the Civil and Revenue Courts are divided in two grades. Their pay is as follows :—

In the Courts of District Judges, Subordinate Judges and Collectors—

	Rs.
1st grade	10
2nd „	8

In the Courts of Munsifs and Deputy Collectors—

	Rs.
1st grade	8
2nd „	6

In the Small Cause Court, Sealdah—

	Rs.
1st grade	8
2nd „	7

In Small Cause Courts other than Sealdah—

[*Maharaja of Nashipur; Mr. Cumming; Chaudhuri M. I. Khan; Mr. Samman.*]

In the Courts of District and Subdivisional Magistrates there is only one grade of peons, the pay of which is Rs. 7.

(*b*) The answer is in the affirmative."

By the Hon'ble MAHARAJA RANAJIT SINHA OF NASHIPUR :—

Memorial fr the process-serv peons of Bagerh

XXVII.—(*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether any memorial from the process-serving peons of Bagerhat in the district of Khulna has been received?

(*b*) If so, what orders have been passed therein?

The following reply by the Hon'ble MR. CUMMING was laid on the table :—

"The answer is in the negative. Reference is invited to the answer to Question No. XXVI (*b*) that Government are considering the desirability of increasing the pay of process-serving peons."

By the Hon'ble CHAUDHURI MUHAMMAD ISMAIL KHAN :—

Filling vacancy in Presidency Col caused by the d of Shams-ul-Ul Mirza Ashraf A

XXVIII.—(*a*) Is it a fact that a member of the Subordinate (ungraded) Educational Service has been selected to fill the vacancy in the Presidency College caused by the death of Shams-ul-Ulama Mirza Ashraf Ali?

(*b*) Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table the names of the various candidates for the post, giving details of their qualifications?

(*c*) In the case of those candidates for the post who are already in Government service, will the Government be pleased to state in each case the pay drawn by such candidate?

The following reply by the Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN was laid on the table :—

"A vacancy recently occurred in the staff of the Presidency College owing to the death of Shams-ul-Ulama Mirza Ashraf Ali, a member of the Provincial Educational Service. The vacancy is being filled up according to the procedure laid down in Government order No. 1560, dated the 18th March, 1910, a copy of which is laid on the table. Government are not prepared to lay on the table any particulars regarding the candidates for the vacant post."

Papers referred to by the Hon'ble Mr. Samman in his answer to Question No. XXVIII (unstarred) asked by the Hon'ble Chaudhuri Muhammad Ismail Khan at the Council meeting of the 1st September, 1914.

No. 1560, dated Calcutta, the 18th March 1910.

From—H. A. F. LINDSAY, Esq., I.C.S., Under-Secretary to the Government of Bengal, General Department,

To—The Director of Public Instruction, Bengal.

WITH reference to your letter No. 3696, dated the 5th March 1910, I am directed to say that Government approves of the rules forwarded therewith, defining the functions and powers of the Governing Body of the Presidency College, Calcutta.

REVISED RULES.

(*a*) The Presidency College will have a definite scale of establishment, according to which there will be a certain number of appointments in the Indian Educational Service, the Provincial Educational Service, Subordinate Educational Service, the Lower Subordinate Educational Service, and outside the grades, respectively. The scale may be altered from time to time by Government. As far as practicable, each professorship or lecturership will

[*Mr. Samman; Hari Mohan Chandra; Mr. Green.*]

(*b*) Whenever an appointment other than in the Indian Educational Service becomes permanently vacant, the Governing Body will call for applications and will elect the candidate whom they judge to be most qualified for the post. The nomination of the Governing Body will, in the case of appointments carrying a salary of Rs. 200 and upwards, require the confirmation of Government. In the case of appointments on less than Rs. 200 outside the grades, ordinary appointments on less than Rs. 200 within the grades, and appointments with a fixed minimum pay of less than Rs. 200, the election of the Governing Body, subject to the terms of rule (*e*), shall be final.

(*c*) If the appointment be in the Provincial Educational Service, the person elected will ordinarily be placed in the lowest grade of that service, but in special cases it will be open to the Governing Body to recommend to Government that the appointment be made in a superior grade, provided that the grade be not higher than that in which the previous occupant of the post was serving.

(*d*) Applications for vacancies in the Presidency College carrying the pay of the Provincial Educational Service may be submitted by officers already serving in the Education Department who will be required to obtain the previous consent of the Director of Public Instruction. If such an applicant be already in the Provincial Educational Service, he will ordinarily carry with him his present pay, though, subject to a similar proviso as in rule (*c*), it will be open to the Governing Body to recommend special terms in special cases. If the applicant is not in the Provincial Educational Service, he will be promoted to it according to the terms of rule (*c*).

(*e*) If the vacant appointment be one carrying the pay of the Subordinate Educational Service or the Lower Subordinate Educational Service, or be one outside the grades, the person elected will be placed in the respective service on the lowest pay, which has been fixed by Government in connection with the appointment in question. If the Governing Body desire to make the appointment on any higher rate of pay than the minimum, they must submit their proposals to the Director of Public Instruction for approval.

(*f*) As in the case of Provincial Service appointments and subject to similar conditions, officers already serving in the Education Department may become candidates for appointments in the Presidency College under rule (*e*).

(*g*) If a post in the Presidency College becomes temporarily vacant, the Governing Body will make a temporary appointment subject to the confirmation required by rule (*b*). If the appointment be in the Provincial Educational Service, the pay of the temporary incumbent should be fixed at Rs. 200, and for other appointments at not less than the lowest pay attached to the appointment in question.

(*h*) No officer will ordinarily be transferred by Government from the Presidency College without the approval of the Governing Body.

By the Hon'ble RAI HARI MOHAN CHANDRA BAHADUR :—

vention of -logging in on the sides nals, etc.

XXIX.—(*a*) Are the Government taking any steps to prevent water-logging in, and otherwise to remove the present insanitary condition of, lands in their occupation situate on the sides of canals, railways and roads which are at present under the control of the Public Works Department?

(*b*) Are the Government issuing any instructions with a view to compel District and Local Boards to do the same with respect to lands abutting on roads maintained by them?

The following reply by the Hon'ble MR. GREEN was laid on the table :—

(*a*) & (*b*) "The Hon'ble Member is apparently alluding to the question of borrow-pits. This Government have taken steps to secure that borrow-pits alongside roads of the Public Works Department and roads of local bodies are constructed and maintained upon sanitary principles. Circular No. 16 C., dated 27th May, 1908, is laid upon the table. The attention of the Superintending Engineers, who are also Inspectors of Local Works,

[*Mr. Green.*]

As regards borrow-pits in railway lands, the Sanitary Department of this Government has drawn the attention of the railway authorities to the question of keeping borrow-pits in a sanitary condition.

As regards canals, borrow-pits are drained into the canals at frequent intervals and as almost all surplus lands attached to canals are leased out for cultivation, the officers of the Irrigation Department take care that such lands are properly drained."

Circular referred to in the answer by the Hon'ble Mr. Green to Question No. XXIX (unstarred) asked by the Hon'ble Rai Hari Mohan Chandra Bahadur at the Council meeting of the 1st September, 1914.

Circular No. 16 C., dated Calcutta, the 27th May 1908.

From—M. J. SCOBIE, ESQ., Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Public Works Department.

To—All Superintending Engineers of Public Works Circles in Bengal.

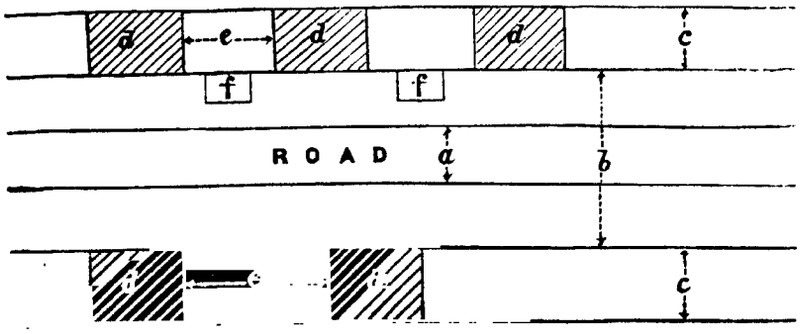
I AM directed to forward the marginally-noted extract from paragraph 37 of the Report of the Drainage Committee, Bengal, received with letter No. 45 of 6th April, 1907, from the Secretary to the Drainage Committee, Bengal, concerning the manner in which borrow-pits have been excavated.

* * * * *

We think it more probable that the construction of these embankments may have done injury to health, not so much by obstructing the course of drainage, but from the manner in which the earth heaped upon them has been excavated. Pits have been left which are undrained and which became breeding grounds for mosquitoes of much the same character as the hollows surrounding the village sites. We think that more attention should be given to this point when these projects are under preparation, and that no plan should be accepted as complete which does not deal with the subsequent drainage of the borrow-pits which are left alongside.

2. I am to point out that the pits referred to are caused not only during the construction of roads, embankments, etc., but also during their repair, and that a little care might lead to great improvement. Pits should, as a rule, be 1 foot to 2 feet in depth: where deeper borrow-pits are necessary, arrangements should be made for draining them when such a course is practicable. If situated in an area liable to floods, they would become silted up in the course of a few years. Care is particularly necessary near houses where the dirty shallow pools are likely to become breeding grounds for mosquitoes.

3. It has been noticed that much improvement is required in laying out borrow-pits for new works. These should be laid out by the subordinate in charge of the work, and the contractors should not be allowed to dig as they please. The pits should be spaced at suitable intervals and be of a size calculated according to the height of the banks required. Wherever practicable the pits should be dug on land temporarily acquired for the purpose lying outside the road or embankment limits, and should not be continuous. They may be on one or both sides of the road as per sketch below :—



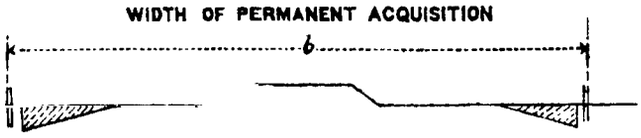
[*Mr. Green; Hari Mohan Chandra; Mr. Samman; Mr. Cumming; The President.*]

In the sketch—

(*a*) indicates width of bank.
(*b*) " " of land permanently acquired.
(*c*) " " " temporarily acquired.
(*d*) " borrow-pits.
(*e*) space between borrow-pits usually not less than 10 feet.

4. The same course should be adopted when earth is required for repairs. Where practicable such pits should be dug outside road limits; where this is not practicable, earth should be dug close to the permanent boundary as marked off on foregoing sketch. In passing through villages special care should be taken. In such cases the height of the bank would ordinarily not be great. It should be possible to dig earth as shown in the section below :—

WIDTH OF PERMANENT ACQUISITION



Shaded portion indicates borrow-pits so as to form a continuous drain.

By the Hon'ble RAI HARI MOHAN CHANDRA BAHADUR :—

Introduction of the elective system in the Darjeeling Municipality.

XXX.—(*a*) With reference to the reply given to my starred question (No. 7) asked at the Council meeting of the 28th February last, will the Government be pleased to state what orders (if any) have been passed on the memorial submitted to Government by certain rate-payers and others of the Darjeeling Municipality praying for the introduction of the elective system in that municipality?

(*b*) If the prayer of the memorialists has been rejected, will the Government be pleased to state the grounds on which such orders have been passed?

The following reply by the Hon'ble Mr. SAMMAN was laid on the table :—

"The memorial is still under the consideration of Government."

By the Hon'ble RAI HARI MOHAN CHANDRA BAHADUR :—

Communication of unfavourable reports to subordinate officers.

XXXI.—In regard to the reply given to my starred question (No. 6) asked at the Council meeting of the 28th February last, will the Government be pleased to state whether any, and, if so, what, decision has been arrived at by Government on the subject of the communication of unfavourable reports to subordinate officers?

The following reply by the Hon'ble Mr. CUMMING was laid on the table :—

"The question is under the consideration of the Government of India and Government are not in a position to make any statement on the subject."

RECEIPT OF TELEGRAMS FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE AND THE VICEROY.

The PRESIDENT said :—

"Gentlemen, before we proceed further with the business that is before us, I would like to read the following telegrams which have been received by me in reference to the Resolution passed by this Council on the 11th August last :—

(1) From the Secretary of State :—

"Your telegram dated 11th August. Resolution of Legislative Council. Please let Council know that it has given me great pleasure to lay the Resolution before His Majesty, who greatly appreciates the declaration."

[*Sir William Duke; Dr. D. P. Sarbadhikari.*]

(2) From the VICEROY :—

"In the name of His Majesty the King-Emperor I thank the Members of your Legislative Council for the loyal resolution passed by them today. I am confident that Bengal will do all in her power to assist in the defence of the Empire to which she belongs."

LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS.

THE BENGAL EXCISE (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1914.

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 3.

The Hon'ble SIR WILLIAM DUKE moved that the Report of the Select Committee on the Bengal Excise (Amendment) Bill, 1914, be taken into consideration.

He said :—

"My Lord, I think it is unnecessary for me at this stage to add anything to the explanations which on more than one occasion have been given to this Council regarding this short Bill. The practical unanimity of the Select Committee is shown by the fact that there is only a single note of dissent on one small point which will come up in Council in the form of an amendment. What is to be said on that subject will be said when the amendment is moved, and I think any further explanation is at present unnecessary."

The Motion was put and agreed to.

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 4.

The Hon'ble DR. DEBA PRASAD SARBADHIKARI moved that—

(*i*) the word "and" at the end of sub-clause (*a*), and

(*ii*) the whole of sub-clause (*b*)

of clause 24 of the Bill be omitted.

He said :—

"Your Excellency, in moving the amendment that stands in my name, may I be permitted to express the satisfaction which, those I humbly represent as well as I personally, feel at the present position and trend of Excise Administration in Bengal. We are aware that it is to your Excellency's sympathetic interest in the social and moral problems of good government that this position is due. The re-introduction in this Council of legislation on Excise Administration after so short a period comparatively since the passing of the Act of 1909, whatever administrative convenience may be its immediate objective, is evidence that the Department realises its administration is capable of still further improvement. The recent despatch from the Secretary of State for India to His Excellency the Viceroy has opened a new chapter in the ever-growing volume of Excise Administration. It is in line with what

[*Dr. D. P. Sarbadhikari.*]

I wish to say upon the amendment I have the honour to move, that the Secretary of State impresses on all Local Governments that for the furtherance of the avowed policy of the Indian Government of minimising temptation to those who do not drink and of discouraging excess among those who do, all considerations of Revenue must be absolutely subordinated. Further, in the circular letter from the Government of India, No. 1766—1783-81 Excise, dated Simla, 18th March 1914, there is the clearly-stated instruction that one of the ways of giving effect to the policy above mentioned is to discourage consumption, so far as is possible, without unduly encouraging illicit methods—

(*a*) by the levy of as high a duty as possible, taking into account the special conditions obtaining in the locality and neighbourhood;

(*b*) by reducing as far as possible and with due regard to legislative requirements the number of retail shops for the sale of liquor and drugs;

(*c*) by regulating and closely supervising the hours of sale, the selection of sites and the general practices adopted in manufacture and vend.

It is under the latter principle that the amendment I desire to move comes in, and if all local officers will faithfully carry out the policy here set forth, we should have still further reason to accept the dictum of the Government of India in the despatch already referred to: 'We are convinced,' says the despatch, 'that we differ from our critics not so much on general principles as in the methods by which we attempt to realise them.'

In moving this amendment I cannot refrain from bringing to the Council's notice the fact that it is the only one standing against my name. And seeing I am supposed, however unworthily, to represent the temperance organisations of this city, I may be pardoned if I ask the Council's support in that, which clearly shews on my part extraordinary self-control, the practical application of temperate principles to the discussion of this Excise Bill.

Some Members of this Council will be aware that the policy of the compounding of offences under the Excise Acts of Bengal has been a subject of much discussion. Under the old law, offenders had invariably to be prosecuted before a Magistrate or their licenses had to be cancelled. When the first charge was introduced, the Hon'ble Member then in charge of the Bill stated the reason thus: 'There are many cases in which it would be to the advantage of both the offender and the Revenue, if the Collector or any Excise Officer specially empowered by the Local Government in that behalf had power to compromise.' And the power was set up giving to the Excise officials interested in the Revenue judiciary powers over breaches of the Excise Law. But some safeguard against a possible improper use of such powers was made in limitation of its application to offences under certain definite sections. And in the introduction to the Bengal Excise Manual of 1910, now in force, a quotation is made from the speech of the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill of 1909 in which he remarks:—'The power of compounding offences should of course be exercised with due caution.'

It is now proposed to go a still further step and to extend the power of composition to all penal offences under the Act (except such as deal with offences by Excise officers themselves), leaving with the Deputy Collector, Superintendent of Excise, or officers specially empowered by the Local Government, to decide what are of a petty nature and what are not. He appears to be limited by the ability to inflict a maximum fine of only Rs. 200 from the person who has disobeyed the law, and to whom, to quote the words of the Hon'ble Member above-mentioned, it will be an advantage, as possibly it may be to the Revenue also, to have a penal act compounded.

I would submit to your Excellency and to this Council that the policy is unsound in principle, as it tends to take away from would-be offenders the greatest possible deterrent of their wrong-doing. Again such a step appears to be unnecessary at this special stage in the Excise Administration, as there

[*Dr. D. P. Sarbadhikari.*]

is no evidence that the Department has been hampered in its administration by the lack of this proposed extended power. Finally, I think that it is dangerous in practice in that it leaves the way open for a possibility of abuse, such as should not be allowed to officers even of the position of Deputy Collector or the Superintendent of Excise.

Passing over any academic discussions on the question of principle, I should like to press for the deletion of this clause purely on the ground that no need has been shown for it. I turn to the last 5 or 6 Administration Reports of the Excise Department to look in vain for any light on the necessity of this change. The amount realized in the compounding of offences is hidden away in the column headed fines, forfeitures, and miscellaneous, Nos. 43, 44, and 45 of the Imperial Tables published under Appendix A in each Annual Report, and with the exception of my hon'ble friend's, the Excise Commissioner's, last report, in which the total number of cases compounded is shewn, there appears to be no reference to this subject for some years back.

It is of course admitted that offences of a petty nature are possible under most of the penal clauses of the Act; and doubtless the Department do not want all the trouble involved in bringing offenders to justice. In addition to this, it is well known that Magistrates are prone to view with some amount of extenuation petty offences of the special kind Excise officers are permitted to compound. Admitting this, there is no ground shewn for any alteration of the present law, and I respectfully ask the Council to be satisfied with the present position of the law which I still regard as wide enough, clear enough, and dangerous enough as it is, for all practical purposes.

May I be permitted in conclusion to make two remarks on this special piece of legislation, as it affects wider questions of Excise Administration.

The Excise Department assuredly attach the greatest importance to the suppression of illicit trade. 'The greatest danger,' says the Government of India, in its recent despatch to the Secretary of State for India, 'that confronts the administration of Excise to-day' is this policy of the compounding of offences likely to encourage or hinder those prepared to run the risk of breaking the law in the illicit manufacture or illicit vend of liquor and drugs? My opinion is that it will encourage evil-doers in the hope that they may be able to make their offences come under the category of 'petty.' This piece of legislation is bound to weaken considerably those sections of the Act dealing with offences and penalties. By so doing it will encourage grasping vendors to risk the chances of detection, and so I think may be fairly characterised as creating a direct incentive to illicit practices.

Then, Sir, the point at issue also has some bearing upon the oft-discussed problem of the separation of the revenue from the licensing function in Excise Administration. It is to be regretted that Administration Reports give no means of comparison of the extent to which revenue has been increased through the operation of Excise officers dealing with the compounding of cases. One would hope that the revenue derived from fines, a fair proportion of which seems to go in the payment of rewards to informers, Excise officers and others, is not regarded with much satisfaction. On general principles, however, it cannot be regarded as satisfactory that Excise officers interested in revenue matters should have the authority to compound cases, the magisterial treatment of which might affect the revenue. I am not in any way reiterating the expression, which I personally believe to be false, that Excise officials are ever willing (if I may use Lord Crewe's words) to subordinate the good order and welfare of the people to considerations of revenue. But I regard it as the wisest policy that the Government can pursue to let Excise officers even of the standing of a Superintendent of Excise have such relationship to the revenue function of Excise Administration as shall preclude even the possibility of a false aspersion. It appears to me that for Excise officers to have powers to the extent of inflicting a fine of Rs. 200 to save a man from going to gaol who ought according to the law be sent there, or of having his license cancelled and his shop closed, is not in the interests of good government or wise legislation or Temperance Reform.

In the absence, therefore, of satisfactory and fuller reasons to justify the change suggested in this amendment I respectfully request the Council

not to approve thereof and beg to move the amendment standing in my name. The amendment possibly need never have been moved but for an unfortunate difference of opinion between the non-official members of the Select Committee and the Hon'ble Mr. Moberly in presenting its report to the Council at Dacca was good enough to say that Government might see their way of accepting the amendment, if such a difference did not exist. I regret such difference of opinion though in some way I also rejoice in it, for it shows that non-official Members of your Excellency's Council do not even in such vital matters, form cliques and parties but try to approach all questions independently from their own individual point of view and in the best light which is vouchsafed to them. That is entirely sound, and whatever the fate of this amendment or similar amendments in future may be I would wish and pray from the bottom of my heart that these sound and healthy views may always prevail. The Hon'ble Sir William Duke was also good enough to express himself in the Select Committee in terms similar to those used by the Hon'ble Mr. Moberly, and I understood that if I brought up the matter before the Council, the matter might be re-considered as the Government had no particular objection to offer to the amendment. I then believed, and still believe, that my non-official Colleagues who opposed me on the Select Committee, laboured under a misapprehension and that their objections to my amendment are not well-founded. I am still of the same opinion and leave the amendment in the hands of the Council with some confidence."

The Hon'ble MR. MOBERLY said :—

"Your Excellency, if I may be permitted I should like, at this stage, to give a brief history of the proposed amendment to section 65, clause 24 (*b*) of the Bill.

In the Eastern Bengal and Assam Excise Bill, 1909, as originally introduced into the Legislative Council of that province, clause 70 which corresponds with section 65 of Bengal Act V of 1909, limited the power of composition to certain offences of much the same character as those to which section 65 of the Bengal Excise Act is at present applicable. The Select Committee however extended the power to all offences except offences under section 61 (which corresponds with section 58 of the Bengal Excise Act) subject to the restriction that the power should only be exercised by the Excise Commissioner and any officer appointed by the Local Government to exercise the powers of a Collector. They wrote: 'We think that the power to accept sums of money in composition of offences is one which, if exercised by subordinate officers, is liable to lead to serious abuses. This power has accordingly been restricted to the Excise Commissioner and the Collector, it being understood that the Local Government may appoint any officer it may consider suitable to exercise the powers of a Collector under this clause.

Subject to the above restriction, we see no reason why the power of compounding offences should be limited to offences under sections 57 [now 5(*b*)], 58, 60 and 62. We recognise that the power should be exercised only in minor cases, but there may be many petty cases under the other sections in which it would be unnecessary to subject the offender to the indignity of a prosecution in court. We have therefore extended the power to all offences under the Act, except offences under section 61, which cannot suitably be compounded.'

The amendment made by the Select Committee was accepted by the Council without discussion. It was in consideration similar to those set forth by the Select Committee in Eastern Bengal that Government included the amendment to section 65 of the Bengal Excise Act which is now under discussion in the Bengal Excise Amendment Bill. It may be pointed out that the safeguards, upon which the Select Committee in Eastern Bengal insisted, already exist in section 65 of the Bengal Excise Act. Not only can no officer except the Collector exercise the power unless he has been specially empowered by the Local Government, but the Local Government may not empower any officer below the rank of Deputy Collector or Superintendent of Excise."

[*Radha Charan Pal; Nalinaksha Basu.*]

The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR said :—

"My Lord, my hon'ble friend, Dr. Sarbadhikari, has correctly stated that there was a difference of opinion in the Select Committee amongst the non-official Members on the subject. My Lord, the amendment that has been moved by my friend, Dr. Sarbadhikari, will not meet the arguments that he has advanced. I wish to point out that this amendment will make the matter worse, because the present law only provides that offences under sections 49, 51 and 54 may be compounded at the discretion of the Collector. Now it will be seen on closer examination of these sections that section 49 is a section which relates to licensed manufacturers or vendors or their servants and imposes a penalty for adulteration by licensed manufacturers or vendors or their servants. Then, my Lord, section 51 also relates to a penalty for certain unlawful acts of licensed vendors or their servants. My Lord, it will thus be seen that the offences under these sections are compoundable at the discretion of the officers appointed by Government, not below the rank of Collector. The offences committed by a licensed vendor or his servant may be compounded, but any offence committed by a person by drawing 6 seers instead of 4 seers of toddy cannot be compounded under this Act. I think, my Lord, that my friend should have moved for the omission of the section empowering officers appointed by the Local Government to compound the offences committed by the licensees. I think, my Lord, the section inserted in the Bill will afford some protection to the poor who would otherwise be dragged to a court of law for having committed a very petty offence against the Act. A poor labourer may unwittingly commit such an offence, but this section will afford him an opportunity of being saved from harassment in a court of law. There is an apprehension in the mind of my friend that this power may be so exercised as not to benefit the offender so much as to benefit the subordinate officers themselves if any of them be so inclined. But I am sure there will be proper supervision over these officers. But even admitting that this is the case, I think neither law nor rule can be so made as to free the Administration from the possibility of such abuses. I speak from personal experience when I say that such is the case everywhere and, if well manipulated from behind, I think even excise prosecutions might be instituted or dropped according to the personal interest of a subordinate officer, if he is not quite straight. I think therefore, my Lord, that this power is very necessary and should be retained in the hands of responsible officers of Government. But there should be proper supervision also. This provision will lead to the protection of the unwary illiterate poor from all the possible harassments at the hands of petty underlings. My Lord, I submit that in the late East Bengal Council there were able, independent and experienced non-official Members, many of whom had a thorough knowledge of the working of the Excise law, but there was not the slightest opposition to this section which is now taken bodily from the East Bengal Act. I think we ought to pause before we ask Government to delete the section. It is not, strictly speaking, a new section, but it is the consolidation of West Bengal and East Bengal Acts. These are the grounds, my Lord, on which I am sorry I cannot support the motion of my friend, Dr. Sarbadhikari, with whom I am generally in agreement and harmony."

The Hon'ble RAI NALINAKSHA BASU BAHADUR said :—

"My Lord, I respectfully beg to support the amendment moved by my hon'ble friend, Dr. Sarbadhikari, not only on the grounds mentioned by him, but also on the ground that the power of compromising cases is liable to be abused and is likely to give rise to corrupt practice. True it is that the

power of compounding offences will only be exercised by the Collector and a superior officer of the Excise Department especially empowered by Government, still as they will have to depend to a certain extent on the investigating officers, these officers will, for their own benefit, be tempted to institute doubtful cases in the hope that they will be compounded. It is a well known fact that persons accused of offences try their best to compromise the cases, if possible; even innocent persons have been seen to make such attempts. They cannot be sure of the result, which very much depends on the ability of the Judge, the nature of the evidence and the lawyers who conduct the case, and with a view to avoid all this they naturally try to compound. If the amendment is not accepted, the result will be that doubtful cases will be deliberately instituted with a view to their being compounded and grave abuses will, therefore, result. I hope, therefore, that this amendment will be accepted."

The Hon'ble SIR WILLIAM DUKE said :—

"My Lord, I think that I need add very little except to state the attitude of Government in regard to this amendment. The Hon'ble Mr. Moberly has explained that we merely borrowed this provision from the Eastern Bengal and Assam Act, where it has been in force for some years past. From the Government point of view, it would no doubt seem to be a convenience to our officers and also a desirable leniency if persons committing petty offences were enabled to avoid public trial. The Hon'ble Dr. Sarbadhikari's objections are no doubt based on temperance grounds and dwell on the possibility of abuse. No doubt, in this provision, as in the case of many others, there is a possibility of abuse. There are many provisions of the law which people do abuse. At the same time, however, the exercise of the power under this clause is to be limited to Deputy Collectors and officers of the same rank, in whom people might place confidence in such matters.

The Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur has expressed the other view, which is the popular view, that it is not always necessary that because persons have committed some small offence against the law they should be prosecuted with the utmost rigour of the law. I, too, think that it is perfectly natural and reasonable that they should be given an opportunity of escaping public exposure and punishment.

But what I wish to say at this moment is that Government have no strong opinions on either point of view. I have already explained how the amended clause came into existence. If the weight of feeling in Council is in favour of the Hon'ble Dr. Sarbadhikari's amendment, Government will not oppose it, but will leave the matter to the determination of the non-official Members of the Council."

The President, having called for a show of hands, declared the amendment lost.

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 5.

The Hon'ble Sir William Duke moved that the Secretary be directed to renumber the clauses and sub-clauses of the Bill in consecutive order, and to make corresponding alterations in all cross-references thereto.

The motion was put and agreed to.

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 6.

The Hon'ble Sir William Duke moved that the Bengal Excise (Amendment) Bill, as settled in Council, be passed.

The motion was put and agreed to.

[*Dr. D. P. Sarbadhikari; Babu Surendra Nath Ray; Sir William Duke.*]

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 7.

(*Under the rules for the discussion of matters of general public interest.*)

The following resolution stood in the name of the Hon'ble Dr. Deba Prasad Sarbadhikari :—

This Council recommends to the Governor in Council that steps be taken, in consultation with the Bengal-Nagpur Railway Company, to cut a canal from Kana Darkessar to Sarda Khal at a suitable point with a view to—

(*i*) minimising, if possible, the disastrous results of flooding in and about the Bogua spill area, in the districts of Burdwan and Hooghly, and

(*ii*) facilitating a straight run for the proposed Bistupur-Howrah Chord Line.

He said :—

"My Lord, when I came to the Council Chamber, I came determined to ask your Excellency to allow my resolution to stand over for the present. Having regard to the present situation, I do not think that it will be possible for Government to give effect to my resolution even if it is carried. Since then I had an opportunity of talking matters over with the Hon'ble Colonel Lotbinière and the Hon'ble Mr. Beatson-Bell, who told me that the matter was already under the consideration of Government with a view to steps being taken to alleviate distress in the affected areas in the Burdwan and Hooghly districts. Therefore, with your Excellency's permission, I would withdraw the resolution."

The resolution was then, by leave of the President, withdrawn.

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 8.

The following resolution stood in the name of the Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Ray :—

This Council recommends to the Governor in Council that a City Civil Court, separate from the Calcutta High Court, be established in Calcutta for the trial of suits valued at rupees ten thousand or under, or of such other valuation as the Government may think proper, which may be instituted within the original civil jurisdiction of the said High Court, and that Government be pleased to take the necessary steps for the early establishment of such a City Court.

He said :—

"My Lord, I have been requested by some of my hon'ble colleagues in the Council to ask your Excellency to allow me to postpone moving this resolution till the next meeting. The establishment of a City Civil Court will be an improvement to the City of Calcutta. But my friends say that as we are now passing through anxious times, the discussion of the resolution may be postponed to a later date especially as many of my friends have not had time enough to study the question, and I do not want to divide their time and attention now by rushing my resolution through the Council. I hope your Excellency will allow me to move this resolution at the next meeting of the Council."

The Hon'ble SIR WILLIAM DUKE said :—

"My Lord, as the Hon'ble Member has given certain definite reasons based upon public grounds why the resolution should not be fully discussed to-day, I will not oppose the adjournment. But I express the hope on behalf of Government that this resolution, which has already been once adjourned, will be disposed of when it next comes up."

[*Dr. Nilratan Sarkar; the President.*]

The resolution was then, by leave of the President, postponed to the next meeting of the Council.

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 9.

The following resolution by the Hon'ble Surendra Nath Ray was postponed, at his request, to the January meeting of the Council :—

This Council recommends to the Governor in Council that a Board of Education (to consist of official and non-official members) be formed for the purpose of the administration of primary and secondary education in this Presidency.

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 10.

The following Resolution stood in the name of the Hon'ble Dr. Nilratan Sarkar :—

This Council recommends to the Governor in Council that every mufassal dispensary be furnished with a fully-equipped clinical investigation room.

He said :—

"My Lord, with your permission, I wish to withdraw the resolution, for I recognize that in these times there are far more important matters requiring the attention of Government than equipping mufassal dispensaries and hospitals with up-to-date appliances."

The resolution was then, by leave of the President, withdrawn.

The President's Address.

The PRESIDENT said :—

"Gentlemen,—We have got through the business for which we were summoned; but before adjourning, I think it is perhaps right that I should say one or two words about the general position with regard to Bengal and what is going on in other parts of the world. There is not much that I need say. The position has not changed very much in its general features since the last time we met here. We thoroughly realize what war actually means. It causes dislocation to trade and commerce, and all the usual occupations of mankind. I think it is most satisfactory to see, in regard to this, that although in no country does war paralyse trade so much as in England, such dislocation lasts for a shorter time there than in any other country. It is gratifying to all of us to see how the people of Bengal have realized their position and are trying to adapt themselves to the altered conditions.

I need hardly refer to the larger aspects of trade and commerce. They are not matters with which my Government have much to do, for they are more the concern of the Government of India. But I think that those who are engaged in commerce can realize all that Government are doing. We all realize the splendid way in which the commercial community are bracing themselves to meet the effects of the present state of affairs, and are doing their best to help the Government and the people. We certainly recognize that. I think that everybody knows now that what is good for Calcutta is good for the whole of Bengal. We know that ships are not available now to take away our produce. It was not anticipated at first that there would be so much difficulty in obtaining tonnage, and most of the people in Calcutta hope that there will soon be more ships available to take away our exports. Trade has had a bad set-back and is not brisk, but as soon as tonnage can be secured trade will revive. I do not know when the end of the present shortage of tonnage is coming, but the end must come some time, and the ships will eventually be procured. But I fear that things

[*The President.*]

will get worse before they get better. As regards the smaller traders, we now hope that the jute cultivators now realize that there is no reason why their crops should not be cut, and we trust that, owing to the wise advice given to them, those crops will certainly be cut.

We are also glad to recognize that many gentlemen are beginning to realize that attempts should be made, whether by way of reviving old industries or starting new industries, to add to the prosperity of Bengal. Very many are asking whether Government will not encourage that sort of thing. Well, so far as Government can encourage this, I am sure Government will do it; but we must remember that the Government cannot go beyond their proper province. We must be content at first with small results, and perhaps those who have money to invest must not expect too much profit. Those who have energy to put into the work must be glad to see their energies successful; but they cannot hope for success on a very large scale at first.

I think there is one matter to which reference seems to be necessary, and that is the rise in the price of food-stuffs. As you all know, we have appointed an Advisory Food Committee in Calcutta which is doing its best to look into the matter, and I am glad to say that up to now nothing very unsatisfactory at any rate has happened. The rise in prices has not been very great, and in some cases the prices are even lower than usual. But one thing Government have done. They are taking care that the prices in Calcutta should be made known to the district officers weekly, so that they may deal with unnecessary rises in country produce.

Fears have been expressed by some people that there may be trouble owing to the shortage of the demand for labour in mills; but I may say that my Government are quite prepared for that, for the Chamber of Commerce and the proprietors of mills have kindly promised to give us all information in their power, so that we may be prepared for any disturbance that may be likely to happen. I think that the distribution of police forces is such that we can deal with any emergency in any district; and that there would be no difficulty in mobilising an extra force, if necessary.

There is one other matter to which I might refer. I have great pleasure in saying that there are some Indian gentlemen of standing who have promised us their services as special constables in the event of peculiar circumstances arising which might necessitate their being called upon. I believe that hitherto it has been thought that Indian gentlemen have not usually been willing to assist the police in this way. But I am glad to say that there are some of the most respected of our Indian fellow citizens, some members of this House, who are perfectly willing to come to our assistance and serve as special constables. I further take this opportunity of acknowledging how much Government owe to some English gentlemen who, as special constables, have given us help in dealing with German and Austrian subjects who unfortunately find themselves in Bengal at the present moment. I need hardly say much more except to thank everybody who has tried to keep Government informed of the state of affairs and to dispel unnecessary fears among the people. I think it ought to be widely known that Government are doing their best to keep a watch on what is happening, and that, if any emergency arises, Government are prepared to meet it.

Adjournment.

I now adjourn the Council *sine die*."

A. W. WATSON,

Secretary to the Government of Bengal and
Secretary to the Bengal Legislative Council.

CALCUTTA,

The 7th September, 1914.

B. S. Press—8-10-1914—2067—500—C. A. P.

Abstract of the Proceedings of the Bengal Legislative Council assembled under the provisions of the Indian Councils Acts, 1861, 1892 and 1909, and the Government of India Act, 1912.

THE Council met in the Council Chamber in Government House on Monday, the 14th December, 1914, at 11 A.M.

Present:

His Excellency the Right Hon'ble THOMAS DAVID, BARON CARMICHAEL OF SKIRLING, G.C.I.E., K.C.M.G., *Governor of the Presidency of Fort William in Bengal, presiding.*

The Hon'ble MR. P. C. LYON, C.S.I., *Vice-President.*

The Hon'ble NAWAB SYED SHAMS-UL-HUDA.

The Hon'ble MR. N. D. BEATSON BELL, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. C. J. STEVENSON-MOORE, C.V.O.

The Hon'ble MR. F. J. MONAHAN.

The Hon'ble SURGEON-GENERAL G. F. A. HARRIS, C.S.I.

The Hon'ble MR. J. H. KERR, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. H. L. STEPHENSON, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. H. F. SAMMAN.

The Hon'ble MR. H. H. GREEN.

The Hon'ble MR. B. B. NEWBOULD.

The Hon'ble MR. C. H. BOMPAS.

The Hon'ble MR. W. W. HORNELL.

The Hon'ble MR. C. F. PAYNE.

The Hon'ble RAI PRIYA NATH MUKHARJI BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble MR. F. A. A. COWLEY.

The Hon'ble MR. H. J. HILARY.

The Hon'ble MR. S. P. SINHA.

The Hon'ble DR. NILRATAN SIRCAR.

The Hon'ble RAJA HRISHIKESH LAHA, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. BYOMKES CHAKRAVARTI.

The Hon'ble SIR BIJAY CHAND MAHTAB, K.C.S.I, K.C.I.E., I.O.M., Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan.

The Hon'ble RAJA SHOSHI KANTA ACHARYYA CHAUDHURI BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble DR. DEBA PRASAD SARBADHIKARI, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble RAJA DINENDRA NARAYAN RAY.

The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble E. H. BRAY.

The Hon'ble MR. F. H. STEWART, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. W. T. GRICE.

The Hon'ble MR. G. A. BAYLEY.

The Hon'ble A. W. C. CHAPLIN.

The Hon'ble MR. GOLAM HOSSEIN CASSIM ARIFF.

The Hon'ble MAULVI MAZHARUL ANWAR CHAUDHURI.

The Hon'ble MAULVI A. K. FAZ-UL-HAQ.

The Hon'ble NAWAB SAIYID HOSSAM HAIDER CHAUDHURI, KHAN BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble MAHARAJA RANAJIT SINHA OF NASHIPUR.

The Hon'ble RAI NALINAKSHA BASU BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble RAJA MAHENDRA RANJAN RAY CHAUDHURI.

The Hon'ble NAWAB SAIYID NAWAB ALI CHAUDHURI, KHAN BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI.

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH RAY.

The Hon'ble BABU MAHENDRA NATH RAY, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble RAI HARI MOHAN CHANDRA BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble CHAUDHURI MUHAMMAD ISMAIL KHAN.

The Hon'ble BABU UPENDRA LAL RAY.

OATH OR AFFIRMATION OF ALLEGIANCE.

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 1.

THE Hon'ble Surgeon-General Harris, the Hon'ble Mr. Newbould, the Hon'ble Mr. Cowley and the Hon'ble Mr. Bray made an oath or affirmation of allegiance to the Crown.

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 2.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

By the Hon'ble MAULVI MAZHARUL ANWAR CHAUDHURI :—

Floods in Burdwan, Hoog Howrah and M napore districts

*1. (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state :—

(*i*) whether the investigations suggested by Mr. C. Addams-Williams, Officiating Superintending Engineer, South-Western Circle, in his note on the remedial measures to lessen the damages by floods in the Burdwan, Hooghly, Howrah and Midnapore districts, have been ordered to be made as recommended by the said Superintending Engineer, and

(*ii*) whether a special officer has been deputed to select the sites of the reservoirs, as recommended in paragraph 56 of the said note?

(*b*) If nothing has yet been done, will the Government be pleased to state whether it is intended to make the investigations, and to depute the special officer, early this cold weather or, if not, when?

The Hon'ble MR. GREEN replied :—

(*a*) (*i*) "The Superintending Engineer, Mr. Addams-Williams, has been requested to submit detailed estimates for the various proposals made in the note referred to. He has also reported that in his opinion it is necessary to remove certain embankments and to declare certain areas under section 6 of the Bengal Embankment Act, 1882 (Ben. Act II of 1882), and the opinion of the Divisional Commissioner has been asked for on these proposals.

(*ii*) Yes. Mr. H. Terrell, Assistant Engineer, has been deputed as a special officer to report on the question of sites at which impounding reservoirs may be constructed with a view to controlling the floods in the Damodar.

(*b*) No reply is required."

By the Hon'ble MAULVI MAZHARUL ANWAR CHAUDHURI :—

The Mo Fund and Educational In tutions in Hoog

*2. (*a*) With reference to my question No. 28, asked in this Council on the 1st of December, 1913, and the reply given thereto by the Hon'ble Mr. Samman, will the Government be pleased to state whether the grants from the Mohsin Fund to the Hooghly College, Collegiate School and the Hooghly Branch School, for the payment of half the fees of Muhammadan students, have this year been diminished, or whether they have been increased, and whether the Muhammadan students of the Hooghly College are this year also being charged full fees from the month of September?

(*b*) Are the Government considering the claims of the College and Schools in Hooghly, the native town of the late Haji Muhammad Mohsin, and particularly of the Hooghly College and Collegiate School, for increased grants from the Mohsin Fund?

[*Maulvi Mazharul Anwar Chaudhuri*; *Mr. Samman*; *Maharaja Ranajit Sinha of Nashipur*; *Mr. Green*; *Babu Upendra Lal Ray.*]

By the Hon'ble MAULVI MAZHARUL ANWAR CHAUDHURI :—*concld.*

(*c*) Are the Government considering the advisability of withdrawing the grant from the Mohsin Fund, made to the Province of Bihar and Orissa, and of applying the money thus set free for the benefit of the educational institutions at Hooghly, and, after them, for the benefit of schools and colleges in other parts of Bengal?

The Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN replied :—

(*a*) "The grants from the Mohsin Fund for short-fee payments for Muhammadan students in the Hooghly College, Collegiate School and amalgamated Branch and Model School during the year 1914-15 amount to Rs. 300, Rs. 500, and Rs. 200, respectively, as against Rs. 325, Rs. 600, and Rs. 250 during the year 1913-14. The budget allotment for short-fee payments during the year 1913-14 was Rs. 13,385; but a sum of Rs. 21,700 was actually distributed under this head in the anticipation that it would be found possible to meet the excess by reappropriation within the General Mohsin Fund Budget. This anticipation was not realised and it therefore became necessary in 1914-15 to keep the distribution of the short-fee payments within the limits of the budget provision of Rs. 14,138. The reply which was given to the Hon'ble Member's Question No. 28 (*d*) at the Council Meeting of the 1st December, 1913, was kept in mind when allotting the grants this year, but as the grants to all other schools and colleges were being reduced, it was impracticable to maintain unchanged the grants to the Hooghly institutions. The reduction in the case of the Hooghly College was, however, proportionately less than those made in the case of other institutions.

Muhammadan students of the Hooghly College have been paying the full college fees from the month of September, 1914.

(*b*) The claims of the college and schools at Hooghly to increased grants were carefully considered, but in view of shortness of funds it was found impossible to meet them.

(*c*) The answer is in the negative. The exact position of affairs was explained to the Hon'ble Member in reply to his Question No. 28 (*e*) at the Council Meeting of the 1st December, 1913."

By the Hon'ble MAHARAJA RANAJIT SINHA OF NASHIPUR :—

Dredging the entrance of the Bhagirathi river.

* 3. (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether the work of dredging the entrance of the Bhagirathi river has commenced?

(*b*) If so, will the Government be pleased to state how much of the work has been estimated to be carried out this year?

The Hon'ble MR. GREEN replied :—

(*a*) "Dredging the entrance of the Bhagirathi commence on the 9th October, 1914.

(*b*) It is hoped that the shoals will be removed in the first three miles of the river before the dry weather renders further operations impracticable."

By the Hon'ble BABU UPENDRA LAL RAY :—

Separate cooking arrangements for Hindus and Muhammadans in jails.

* 4. (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether there are separate cooking arrangements in separate houses for Hindus and Muhammadans in all or any of the jails of this Presidency?

(*b*) If not, will the Government be pleased to state whether they are considering the desirability of making such arrangements?

[*Mr. Kerr: Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur: Mr. Stephenson.*]

The Hon'ble MR. KERR replied :—

(*a*) "In some jails wholly separate cooking arrangements are provided; in others the separation is not so complete.

(*b*) Government have recognised the desirability of providing separate kitchens, and provision is being made as kitchens are reconstructed and new kitchens built."

By the Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR :—

Grant of a pension to the widow of the late Babu Rukmini Kanta Mazumdar.

*5. (*a*) Have the Government received an application from the widow of the late Babu Rukmini Kanta Mazumdar for the grant of a pension to her and her son?

(*b*) Is it the fact that her husband was killed by a stray bullet fired during the recent Budge Budge incident?

(*c*) Will the Government be pleased to state what action (if any) they have taken on the said memorial?

The Hon'ble MR. KERR replied :—

(*a*) & (*b*) "The answer is in the affirmative.

(*c*) Immediately after the riot at Budge Budge, Government initiated inquiries with a view to make suitable provision for the families of those who met their death on that occasion. Government will give public intimation of the arrangements made as soon as possible."

By the Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR :—

The dyeing industry.

*6. (*a*) Has the attention of the Government been drawn to the action taken by the Imperial Government in England in connection with the dyeing industry?

(*b*) Is it true that His Majesty's Government have indicated their willingness to subscribe a portion of the share capital and guarantee the interest of a large debenture issue?

(*c*) Are the Government considering any action for the encouragement of Indian industries on lines similar to that proposed in England?

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON replied :—

(*a*) & (*b*) "Government have no official information on the subject.

(*c*) Mr. Swan has been placed on special duty in this province to report regarding the encouragement that can be given to Indian industries. His report will be considered when it is received, but the general lines of policy to be adopted will be a matter of Imperial rather than Provincial consideration."

By the Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR :—

Amendment of the Calcutta Municipal Act, 1899 (Ben. Act III of 1899).

*7. (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether it is fact that the Hon'ble Mr. Payne was appointed as a Special Officer to examine and report upon proposals connected with the amendment of the Calcutta Municipal Act, 1899 (Ben. Act III of 1899)?

(*b*) If so, will the Government be pleased to state whether that officer has submitted his report or proposals for the amendment of the said Act?

(*c*) If the report or the recommendations have been submitted, will the Government be pleased to lay them on the table?

[*Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur; Mr. Samman; Dr. Deba Prasad Sarbadhikari; Mr. Stephenson.*]

By the Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR:—*concld.*

(*d*) Have the Government recorded any views or come to any decision for submission of proposals to the Government of India with regard to the amendment of the Calcutta Municipal Act, 1899 (Ben. Act III of 1899)?

(*e*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether their proposals involve the abolition of the General Committee and the transfer, in a large measure, of its powers to the head of the executive?

(*f*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether the proposals also involve a recommendation for a larger number of Commissioners with one of them as President of the Corporation?

(*g*) If so, are these proposals in the nature of an expansion of the powers and prerogatives of the Corporation?

The Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN replied :—

(*a*) "The Hon'ble Mr. Payne was placed on special duty in connection with the amendment of the Calcutta Municipal Act, 1899.

(*b*) Mr. Payne made certain suggestions to Government in this connection, but submitted no formal report.

(*c*) After considering Mr. Payne's suggestions Government issued a Resolution, No. 111½ T.—M., dated the 21st July, 1913, informing the public of the most important changes contemplated in the Act and inviting opinions upon them. Under these circumstances Government do not consider it necessary to lay on the table the recommendations made by Mr. Payne.

(*d*), (*e*), (*f*) & (*g*) Government are not prepared to give any further information at this stage regarding the proposal to amend the Calcutta Municipal Act."

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS.

By the Hon'ble DR. DEBA PRASAD SARBADHIKARI :—

Compounding of offences under the Bengal Excise Act, 1909 (Ben. Act V of 1909).

I.—Will the Government be pleased to state—

(*i*) the annual number of cases in which offences under the Bengal Excise Act (Ben. Act V of 1909) have been compounded during the last two years and their nature as far as possible; and

(*ii*) the amount of fines levied as a result of such compounding?

The following reply by the Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON was laid on the table :—

(*i*) & (*ii*) "Two statements, A and B, furnishing the information asked for by the Hon'ble Member, for the years 1912-13 and 1913-14, are placed on the table."

[*Mr. Stephenson.*]

A

Statement referred to in the answer by the Hon'ble Mr. Stephenson to Question No. I (unstarred) asked by the Hon'ble Dr. Deba Prasad Sarbadhikari, C.I.E., at the Council meeting of the 14th December, 1914, showing the number of cases compounded under section 65 of Ben. Act V of 1909 and section 70 of Ben. Act I of 1910 and the amount of fines realised during 1912-13.

NATURE OF CASE.	No.	Amount realized.
		Rs.
Dilution of country spirit	41	729
Failure to return passes in time	14	168
Failure to keep sufficient stock of excisable articles ...	4	18
Employing unregistered salesmen	20	273
Failure to keep accounts regularly or keeping incorrect accounts.	13	371
Delay in paying license fees	31	82
Sales at unauthorized hours	9	80
Using incorrect weights or measures	16	233
Sale of excisable articles in excess of the limit of retail sale.	1	5
Sale at unauthorized places (including failure to remove shop to another site when ordered to do so).	5	50
Failure to produce license or accounts for inspection ...	10	85
Bartering *pachwai* for rice	1	10
Unauthorized transfer or sub-lease of license ...	1	1
Miscellaneous	20	270
Total ...	216	2,375

[*Mr. Stephenson.*]

B

Statement referred to in the answer by the Hon'ble Mr. Stephenson to Question No. I (unstarred) asked by the Hon'ble Dr. Deba Prasad Sarbadhikari, C.I.E., at the Council meeting of the 14th December, 1914, showing the number of cases compounded under section 65 of Ben. Act V of 1909 and section 70 of Ben. Act 1 of 1910 and the amount of fines realised during 1913-14.

NATURE OF CASE.	No.	Amount realized.	
		Rs.	A.
Dilution of country spirit	60	1,212	0
Failure to return passes in time	64	350	4
Failure to keep sufficient stock of excisable articles ...	53	406	0
Employing unregistered salesmen	38	280	0
Failure to keep accounts regularly or keeping incorrect accounts.	34	162	0
Delay in paying license fees	22	90	0
Sales at unauthorised hours	11	150	0
Using incorrect weights or measures	12	539	0
Sale of excisable articles in excess of the limit of retail sale.	8	141	8
Sale at unauthorised places (including failure to remove shop to another site when ordered to do so).	8	71	0
Selling country spirit at prices higher than the prescribed maximum.	6	110	0
Failure to produce license or accounts for inspection ...	5	33	0
Bartering *pachwai* for rice	5	25	0
Unauthorised transfer or sub-lease of license or admission of partners.	4	95	0
Miscellaneous and unspecified	36	535	8
Total ...	366	4,500	4

[*Maharaja Ranajit Sinha of Nashipur; Mr. Samman.*]

By the Hon'ble MAHARAJA RANAJIT SINHA OF NASHIPUR :—

II.—(*a*) Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement, covering the last three years, showing the number of deaths from malarial fever which have occurred in the districts of Murshidabad, Nadia, Jessore and Burdwan, respectively, during the period July to October?

Malaria in the districts Burdwan, Jessore, Murshidabad and Nadia.

(*b*) Is it a fact that the number of cases of, and deaths from, malarial fever in the Presidency of Bengal has been generally greater this year than in previous years, and that this is specially the case in regard to the districts of Murshidabad, Nadia, Jessore, Bankura and Burdwan?

(*c*) If so, will the Government be pleased to state whether they are making any inquiries as to the cause of this increase and whether they are taking any steps to remedy the evil?

The following reply by the Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN was laid on the table :—

"(*a*) The Hon'ble Member is referred to Appendix I, form No. IX, of the Annual Report on Sanitation in Bengal. No separate statistics are kept for malarial fever which is included under the general head 'Fever'.

(*b*) The number of deaths from fever in the Presidency of Bengal during the first nine months of 1914 showed an increase of 5 per cent. over the number of such deaths in the corresponding period of 1913. The deaths in Jessore show a decrease, while the percentage of increase in the cases of Burdwan, Bankura, Nadia and Murshidabad was 7, 9, 8, and 9, respectively. Seven districts returned higher percentages, ranging from 9 to 63.

(*c*) No special inquiry into the reason for the increase has been made. Sub-Assistant Surgeons have been deputed as in previous years, but over a wider area."

By the Hon'ble MAHARAJA RANAJIT SINHA OF NASHIPUR :—

III.—(*a*) Is it a fact that cholera broke out in the Murshidabad Municipality in a virulent form during the summer of 1913 and again in October in that year?

Cholera in the Murshidabad Municipality.

(*b*) If so, will the Government be pleased to state whether they are taking any steps to inquire into the cause of these frequent outbreaks with a view to their diminution?

The following reply by the Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN was laid on the table :—

(*a*) "In the Murshidabad Municipality 27 deaths from cholera were registered during 1913. Of these, 1 occurred in March, 4 in August, 21 in September and 1 in October.

(*b*) The outbreak of cholera in September was, in the opinion of the Sanitary Commissioner, a result of the heavy floods. Apart from this there has been very little cholera in the town of Murshidabad and Government do not consider it necessary to take any special steps in the matter."

By the Hon'ble MAHARAJA RANAJIT SINHA OF NASHIPUR :—

IV.—Will the Government be pleased to state whether the water-works scheme for the Krishnagar Municipality has been sanctioned, and, if so, when the work is likely to be taken in hand?

Water-works scheme for Krishnagar Municipality.

The following reply by the Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN was laid on the table :—

"The water-works scheme for the Krishnagar Municipality has not been submitted to Government for approval."

[*Maharaja Ranajit Sinha of Nashipur; Mr. Kerr; Babu Surendra Nath Banerji, Mr. Stephenson.*]

By the Hon'ble MAHARAJA RANAJIT SINHA OF NASHIPUR :—*concld.*

Village distribution of vernacular leaflets containing reliable war news.

V.—Will the Government be pleased to state whether they are considering the desirability of distributing, in every village and town of the Presidency, vernacular leaflets containing reliable news from the various seats of war?

The following reply by the Hon'ble MR. KERR was laid on the table :—

"Government, after considering the comparative advantages and disadvantages of establishing a Press Bureau as far as this province is concerned, came to a conclusion against the proposal."

By the Hon'ble MAHARAJA RANAJIT SINHA OF NASHIPUR :—

Payment of Government revenue for the January *kist*.

VI.—(*a*) Has the attention of the Government been drawn to the complaint that landlords are finding it very difficult, owing to the heavy fall in the price of jute, to meet the demands of Government revenue in full for the January *kist*?

(*b*) Are the Government proposing to make some concession in this respect?

The following reply by the Hon'ble MR. KERR was laid on the table :—

(*a*) "Government have not observed any complaints that the fall in the price of jute will make it difficult for Zamindars to pay the land revenue due at the January *kist*.

(*b*) Under the rules, sanctioned by the Secretary of State, applications for the suspension or remission of land revenue may be made to the Collector of the district in any permanently-settled area in which test works have been opened under the rules of the Bengal Famine Code. Government do not propose to take any action except in accordance with the rules."

By the Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI :—

Progress of work in connection with indigenous industries.

VII.—Will the Government be pleased to make a statement with regard to the progress of the work entrusted to Mr. Swan in connection with indigenous industries?

The following reply by the Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON was laid on the table :—

"Mr. Swan is inquiring into the present position of such industries as the industrial surveys of 1890 and 1908 showed to be capable of expansion, and is considering on what line advance is possible; he has consulted representatives of the classes which might be expected to provide capital for indigenous industries and is trying to get into touch with those who might make good use of capital. Mr. Swan expects to submit a report by the end of December."

By the Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI :—

Encouragement of indigenous industries.

VIII.—(*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether they are taking, or have taken, any action, for the encouragement of—

(*i*) dyeing and tanning in this Presidency, and

(*ii*) the manufacture of the following indigenous industries, namely :—

(1) glass,
(2) matches,
(3) silk and cotton goods,
(4) sugar,
(5) paper?

(*b*) If the Government have taken any action, will they be pleased to make a statement with regard to it?

[*Mr. Stephenson ; Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur.*]

The following reply by the Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON was laid on the table :—

"Government have taken no action to encourage the manufacture of either glass, matches, cotton goods or paper, but these industries are within the scope of Mr. Swan's inquiry.

Government have taken the following action to encourage dyeing and tanning in this Presidency. At Sibpur Civil Engineering College there is a Department of Tinctorial Chemistry in charge of Mr. R. N. Sen who was recruited in England three years ago for the post. There is a well-equipped laboratory, a dye-house and dye-works. There is room for 12 higher class students, and artisans have been recently admitted. But the classes are not full and the facilities for training appear to be ample to meet any possible demand arising from the future development of these industries.

In the case of silk and sugar, the action taken by Government has hitherto been directed rather to the agricultural aspect of the problem and the improvement of the raw material than to the encouragement of manufacture. A Committee which sat in 1906 found definitely that the main cause of the decline of the silk industry was the presence of pebrine in the cocoons, and the efforts of the Agricultural Department have since been devoted largely to the elimination of the disease. The operations are in charge of the Bengal Silk Committee on which the leading silk firms in the province are represented. The plan at first followed was to rear cocoons obtained from village rearers at small nurseries, but owing to the difficulty of eliminating diseased cocoons, the results were not satisfactory, and the present policy, which has been adopted on the advice of the Silk Committee, is to establish gradually throughout the silk districts a number of large central nurseries from which pure cocoons will be supplied under Government supervision to the village rearers. At the same time, the problem of improving the breed of cocoons by careful selection and the introduction of new types has not been overlooked. A French sericultural expert who was employed by the Department in 1912-13 made a number of experiments both with indigenous and with imported types, but had to leave India owing to ill health before he was able to establish any permanent results. His successor, who arrived in India last January, has carried on and extended his work, but has himself been called away for service with the French Army. Arrangements have, however, been made to carry on his work during his absence, and it is hoped that it will be possible during the coming year to arrive at some conclusion regarding the main difficulty of preserving imported and cross-bred varieties from deterioration owing to their inability to stand the climate of Bengal during the rains.

In the case of sugarcane, a survey of local and imported varieties is being carried out. The demand for good cane cuttings greatly exceeds the supply, and the area on the Government farms under sugarcane of the best varieties is being extended. The Director of Agriculture is also endeavouring to arrange for the production of cuttings on private seed farms. Demonstrations are being given of the use of the iron roller cane-crushing mill, which is reported to have supplanted the old wooden roller mill in many parts of the country. Attention has also been given to the important problem of producing sugar direct from the juice, and the Agricultural Chemist is importing apparatus from America which will be tried both for date palm and for cane juice. The improvement and extension of date palm sugar production are also being investigated, and the recent rise in the price of sugar appears already to have given a stimulus to this industry."

By the Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR :—

IX.—Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a copy of the regulations and orders in force under which the Calcutta Police regulate—

(*i*) the traffic, and

(*ii*) the processions, religious and social,

which take place in the city of Calcutta and its suburbs ?

Regulation traffic, etc., by police in the city Calcutta and suburbs.

[*Mr. Kerr; Babu Upendra Lal Ray; Mr. Stephenson; Chaudhuri Muhammad Ismail Khan.*]

The following reply by the Hon'ble MR. KERR was laid on the table :—

"The regulations and orders in question will be found in the volume of 'Police Rules for the Regulation of traffic in Calcutta,' a copy of which is laid on the table. The volume is sold to the public at the price of eight annas per copy."

By the Hon'ble BABU UPENDRA LAL RAY :—

Amounts received as revenue, tax and fees and amounts expended on public works, education and sanitation.

X.—Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a comparative statement showing, division by division,—

(*i*) the amounts received on account of Government revenue, income-tax, stamp and court-fees,

(*ii*) the amounts spent on public works, communication (land and river), education and sanitation, during the last five years?

The following reply by the Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON was laid on the table :—

(*i*) "Information desired by the Hon'ble Member in clause (*i*) of his question is to be found—

in the Land Revenue Reports, Appendix I;
" " Excise Report, Appendix A;
" " Income-tax Reports, Appendix IV; and
" " Stamps Reports, Statements II and III.

(*ii*) The amounts spent on Public Works, Communications, Education and Sanitation are not compiled divisionally except as regards the District Board expenditure, and the figures are not therefore available."

By the Hon'ble CHAUDHURI MUHAMMAD ISMAIL KHAN :—

Insanitary condition of the Civil Court-house at Pirojpur.

XI.—(*a*) Have the Government received a memorial from the public of Pirojpur, in the district of Bakarganj, complaining of the insanitary condition and the inconvenient situation of the Civil Court-house at Pirojpur?

(*b*) If so, what action, if any, have Government taken on the memorial?

(*c*) Is it a fact that the Court-house is a low-roofed corrugated-iron shed with wooden posts and mat-walls?

(*d*) Are the Government considering the desirability of replacing the existing corrugated-iron shed by a *pucca* building?

The following reply by the Hon'ble MR. KERR was laid on the table :—

(*a*) "The answer is in the affirmative.

(*c*) The Court House is built on a *pukka* plinth with mat walls and a corrugated-iron roof with planked ceiling in the rooms. In March 1913 certain improvements including provision of a mat ceiling to the verandahs were made in the building at a cost of Rs. 2,450.

(*b*) and (*d*) The local engineers inspected the building in June last and instructions were issued to submit a plan and estimate of the alterations necessary to improve the building."

By the Hon'ble CHAUDHURI MUHAMMAD ISMAIL KHAN :—

Lists of voters for election of members to Local Boards of Bakarganj.

XII.—(*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state what steps have been taken to get corrected lists of voters compiled for the election of members to the Local Boards of the district of Bakarganj?

(*b*) Are the Government considering the desirability of giving the public time to scan these lists by printing and publishing them at once?

[*Mr. Samman : Chaudhuri Muhammad Ismail Khan : Maulvi A. K. Faz-ul-Haq : Mr. Kerr.*]

The following reply by the Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN was laid on the table :—

(*a*) "In connection with a Local Board election in the Bakarganj district in 1912 test inquiries were made in certain villages to ascertain whether the voters' list was correct. The result of these inquiries showed that the list was deficient, and that if all persons qualified to vote according to the present franchise were registered, the election rules would require modification to allow of all their votes being recorded within a reasonable time. The matter was discussed at the Commissioners' Conference and further test inquiries in other districts were then made. The result of these inquiries has lately been received; it is substantially the same as that in Bakarganj. The whole question is now under the consideration of Government, and pending final orders upon it, no further steps have been taken to correct the lists of electors in the Bakarganj district.

(*b*) Rule 23 of the Local Board election rules provides for the publication of the electoral roll for each thana two months before the date of an election, and rules 24 to 26 prescribe a procedure for the scrutiny of claims to vote and the consideration of any objections lodged against such claims. Government are not considering the desirability of giving further publicity to the electoral rolls."

By the Hon'ble CHAUDHURI MUHAMMAD ISMAIL KHAN :—*concld.*

Election of members to Local Boards of Bakarganj

XIII.—In connection with the election of members to Local Boards, will the Government be pleased to state whether the centres of election and the number of seats to be filled are increased as new thanas are created out of the old thanas?

The following reply by the Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN was laid on the table :—

"The attention of the Hon'ble Member is invited to the distinction between a thana or revenue unit and a police-station or investigating centre. The unit of area for Local Board elections is the thana which is unaffected by the creation of additional police-stations within it.

No increase has accordingly been made in the number of seats or centres of election in consequence of the creation of new police-stations. The sufficiency of the existing number of polling stations for each election is, however, now being examined by Government in connection with the general question of revising the election rules."

By the Hon'ble MAULVI A. K. FAZ-UL-HAQ :—

Candidates for the Provincial Executive Service.

XIV.—Will the Government be pleased to state—

(*i*) the total number of candidates in each district for the Provincial Executive Service this year;

(*ii*) the number of qualified Muhammadan candidates in each district;

(*iii*) the number of Muhammadans nominated in each district by the respective District Officers?

The following reply by the Hon'ble MR. KERR was laid on the table :—

"The information for which the Hon'ble Member asks is privileged."

By the Hon'ble MAULVI A. K. FAZ-UL-HAQ :—

Muhammadan officer to hold charge of the Baraset sub division.

XV.—(*a*) Is it a fact that no Muhammadan officer has been appointed to hold charge of the Baraset subdivision, since the creation of the subdivision?

(*b*) Are the Government considering the advisability of placing a Muhammadan officer in charge there?

The following reply by the Hon'ble MR. KERR was laid on the table :—

(*a*) "The answer is in the affirmative.

(*b*) The answer is in the negative."

By the Hon'ble MAULVI A. K. FAZ-UL-HAQ :—*concld.*

Appointment of Muhammadans to ministerial appointments.

XVI.—Will the Government be pleased to state what steps, if any, are being taken by the various heads of departments to ensure the observance of the recent Government circular about the appointment of Muhammadans to ministerial appointments?

The following reply by the Hon'ble MR. KERR was laid on the table :—

"The circular in question was issued in the month of April last, and the submission of an annual statement was prescribed in which the action taken by officers to carry out the orders contained in the circular will be noted. The first of these annual statements will be due in the month of July next and Government do not consider it necessary to make inquiries on the subject in anticipation of the receipt of those statements."

By the Hon'ble MAULVI A. K. FAZ-UL-HAQ :—

Sub-Inspectors of Police promoted to Inspectorship.

XVII.—Will the Government be pleased to state how many Sub-Inspectors of Police were promoted this year to be Inspectors, and how many of these were Muhammadans?

The following reply by the Hon'ble MR. KERR was laid on the table :—

"Fifty Sub-Inspectors have been promoted this year to the rank of Inspectors to fill permanent as well as temporary vacancies (excluding leave and other acting vacancies), and of these seven are Muhammadans. Inspectors are usually selected from the first three grades of Sub-Inspectors: the number of Hindu and Muhammadan officers in these three grades is 548 and 80, respectively."

THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE PRESIDENT said :—

IN accordance with custom I must say a few words in opening this new session. The programme of business which Government are putting before you, and which the Secretary has circulated for your information, may not be very exciting—you may even think it somewhat modest—but I believe it is an useful one and that the measures which we shall ask you to pass will do good. At any rate I confidently look to you for help in making them what they ought to be. I doubt whether any of you expect Government to deal at present with many of the things which you would like it to deal with. Much which we all wish to see done must for the moment be left undone. For we know that whether we like it or not there must for some time be financial stress; Government, it is plain, must conserve their balances and must restrict their expenditure to their normal income; we cannot look for large grants—perhaps we cannot look for grants at all from the Government of India—to enable us to undertake new reforms or even to do work which we have already decided must be done as soon as we have money to do it. We must be prepared, too, to meet emergencies due to possible distress. We hope these may not arise; we believe that certain risks are past, but we must be prepared. Trade and commerce have suffered as they have suffered all over the Empire. Some trades have been completely disorganised: the hide trade for example and several smaller industries. Our great industry—our jute industry—has suffered much; it is recovering, and we trust will recover more; some of those connected with it will we hope prosper far more than at one time they were inclined to admit

was possible; still it cannot be denied that many have suffered. Very little business has been done. The consequent drying-up of the river of cash which ordinarily flows into the country districts at this time of year, and which is counted on by all, must have far-reaching effects, some of which we can hardly yet estimate. It is the duty of Government through their officers to keep a sympathetic watch over the situation, and that I promise you shall be done. The outlook is improving, but we must continue to be careful. Reports show us, too, that the winter rice crop will be none too plentiful. I mention these things not to alarm you—for there is no cause for alarm—but merely to show you that we have not forgotten them.

We are under the shadow of a great war, but even in that shadow there are bright spaces. We are no less confident now than we were last August of what the result will be. We are proud of what has been done by the forces of our King-Emperor and by our allies on land, on the sea, and in the air. But we realise more clearly than we did how victory is to be won and at how great a cost. In that cost every part of the Empire will bear its share—India and Bengal will suffer as Britain must suffer and as every British dominion must suffer; but in the final triumph which is assuredly coming and in the blessings which will flow from that triumph, India and Bengal will have their share.

The loyalty to Great Britain shown by India during these last few months, the eagerness of the Indian peoples to fight alongside of Britons against the foes of our Emperor, clearly testify to the conviction of all who think for India that the good of her peoples will best be attained if Indians of their own free will remain closely associated with the people of the British Islands, and with those who though they have left those islands continue to be Britons, in forming an United Empire which we believe is, and which, we hope, will long be, the greatest power on earth for human good.

This conviction is no new thing; it has not sprung up merely since the war began. It existed long before that in the hearts of many Indians and it was spreading from Indian to Indian; but it has shown itself now as never before and it will never be forgotten. It has made it easier for Indians and Britons to understand each other, and it will make it easier for Britons and Indians to work together. This cannot but be for the lasting good of both.

The people of Bengal have not been wanting. Circumstances are such that they cannot share in the actual fighting, but they have given proof of their willingness to make sacrifices. I admire the way in which the Europeans in Calcutta have come forward. When I cross the Maidan every morning and see the hard work which so many of them are putting in, I admire them, and I cannot help being sorry for them, that they cannot get the chance which they would like of proving what they are worth. But I admire no less the spirit which has been shown by many Bengali youths and I most sincerely hope that it may yet be possible for them to get the chance of showing of what they too are worth. The proposal for a Bengali Ambulance Corps is by no means dead yet. There have been difficulties in carrying it out, but I hope they will yet be surmounted.

Bengalis, however, have already done more than some of us have given them credit for—to help Government and through Government their country—in a way none the less valuable because it is not obtrusive. Nothing has given me greater satisfaction lately—not even the capture of the *Emden*, and that gave us all great satisfaction—than to learn how well the zamindars and the income-tax-payers of Bengal have been "playing up." I know how hard they have been hit over jute; I know how bad in many places are the prospects for the winter rice crop, how uncertain the outlook for next year. I was surprised therefore to find that more land revenue and more assessed taxes had been paid by the end of last month than were paid at the same date last

year. That fact says a great deal for the loyalty of the zamindars and of the income-tax-payers, and I would like to take this opportunity of thanking them for their punctuality in discharging what I fear must have been to many of them a difficult duty.

There is one matter to which I must refer. We were all grieved when we read of the two fresh bomb outrages. I do not believe there is any one who really cares for Bengal who was not horror-struck when he heard of them. That crimes of this sort should happen is bad enough at any time; but that they should happen now is peculiarly grievous, when our whole outlook is what it is owing to the war, when there is so much suffering being borne patiently and bravely in the cause of our King-Emperor. It pains us to find that there are some persons here so dead to the feeling of loyalty which is actuating Indians of all classes in every province, in every Native State, in every part of Bengal that they can seize this moment to show their implacable hatred of the Government of their country—the Government of which this assembly forms a part—in which their own countrymen take every day an increasing share. Such acts, whatever be the professed motives of those who do them, can only delay progress: can only bring disgrace on the motherland which they profess to love. The miscreants who do them are surely doubly guilty when they do them now; and I feel confident that there is not one among you who will not be with Government if we find ourselves bound to take steps to protect Bengal from those who are bringing her people into disrepute—a disrepute which is most undeserved.

THE BENGAL EMBANKMENT (SUNDARBANS) BILL, 1914.

LIST OF BUSINESS.—ITEMS Nos. 3 and 4.

The Hon'ble Mr. Beatson Bell moved for leave to introduce a Bill to extend to the Sundarbans certain enactments relating to embankments.

He said:—

"My Lord—The Bill is short, simple, and I hope practically non-contentious. I have really nothing to add to the "Statement of Objects and Reasons" which is already in the hands of Hon'ble Members. It cannot be denied that in any country which is liable to floods and is intersected by great rivers the erection of embankments is not a matter which can be left uncontrolled, nor, I may add, a matter on which the State should hesitate where necessary to spend public money. If a private individual be allowed, in such a country as Bengal, to erect embankments without control from, or aid by, the State, there is grave danger that he may (in spite of the best intentions) do enormous harm not only to himself, which is important; but also to his neighbours, which is more important; and to posterity, which is most important of all. Any one who has seen the Sundarbans must agree that the question of embankments is more vital there than in any other part of the province. For the rest of the province we have a good workable law—Bengal Act 2 of 1882. But strangely enough this Act does not apply to the Sundarbans. The embankments in the Sundarbans are still left to the working of older and more ineffective laws. Why this is so, we cannot say. There is absolutely nothing in the debates in Council of 1882 to show why the Sundarbans were omitted. All that we now propose to do is to assimilate the embankment laws of the Sundarbans to the law in the rest of Bengal. I ask to introduce a Bill to this effect."

The motion was put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble Mr. Beatson Bell moved that the said Bill be referred to a Select Committee consisting of the Hon'ble Mr. Kerr, the Hon'ble Mr. Cowley, the Hon'ble Raja Hrishikesh Laha, the Hon'ble Mr. Chakravarti, the Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Faz-ul-Haq and the mover, with instructions to submit their report in time for its presentation in Council at the meeting to be held in January next.

The motion was put and agreed to.

THE CALCUTTA IMPROVEMENT (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1914.

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEMS Nos. 5 and 6.

The Hon'ble Nawab Syed Shams-ul-Huda moved for leave to introduce a Bill to amend the Calcutta Improvement Act, 1911.

He said :—

"My Lord,—I move for leave to introduce a Bill to amend the Calcutta Improvement Act, 1911. In doing so I would observe that while fully recognizing the objections to amending a controversial Act such as this so soon after its enactment, the Government are convinced that the amendments proposed in the Bill are urgently required in the interests of the Public and the Trust alike. The Calcutta Improvement Trust commenced work in January, 1912. Their proceedings have reached a stage at which the Trust have found it essential to prepare as accurate a forecast as possible of the whole of their future work. They have accordingly framed an estimate of the funds likely to be available for capital expenditure on road improvements in Calcutta, and on the basis of this estimate they have prepared a complete and interconnected series of schemes, including the construction of 6½ miles and the widening of 8½ miles of main roads in the heart of Calcutta. The execution of these projects will be a work of many years. Meanwhile, the city is rapidly developing, in spite of much pessimism that prevailed after the Delhi announcements, and costly buildings are springing up in all directions. The position is therefore one of extreme difficulty. The danger is twofold. It is essential that the operations of the Trust should not discourage private enterprise; it is equally essential that private enterprise should not cause undue interference with the future working of the Trust.

As the law now stands, the Improvement Trust have no control over prospective lines of roads within the Calcutta Municipality until a road scheme has been finally approved and the land acquired. The preparation of a programme for the future gives them no power of interference with building operations on the land concerned; nor does it give the public any assurance that the alignments proposed will not eventually be modified or that the execution of the project will not be long delayed. During the period of uncertainty many will be deterred from investing their money in buildings which may have to be pulled down in a few years' time. This will be an indirect interference with their rights of property. Others given to speculation may be induced to push forward unnecessary building operations to add to the cost of acquisition. The demolition of buildings recently erected will be unprofitable destruction of wealth and the erection of a costly building on the lines selected for a road may in many cases render the cost of acquisition prohibitive, and thereby necessitate a change in the alignment. The element of speculation thus introduced will be a bar to true progress. The situation is unsatisfactory for the owners of property as well as for the Trust. To meet these difficulties and to remove the present uncertainty it

has become necessary to enact provisions such as those embodied in the Bill. We are introducing no new principles. Within the limits of the Calcutta Municipality, the General Committee of the Calcutta Corporation exercise similar powers and section 63 of the Calcutta Improvement Act, 1911, gives power to the Trust to prepare schemes and plans of proposed streets in the *vicinity* of the Calcutta Municipality, and when those plans have been duly sanctioned to regulate building operations on the land shown in them.

The difficulty of administering the law within the Calcutta Municipality has arisen from the fact that if the General Committee are asked by the Improvement Trust to align streets on their behalf under section 356 of the Calcutta Municipal Act, the Trust have not the power to incur expenditure on damages that may accrue from such operations, and the Calcutta Corporation cannot in fairness be called upon to pay. It appears therefore to be eminently desirable that control over the whole proceedings should be vested in a single authority. It is accordingly proposed, and this is the main provision of the Bill, to amend section 63 of the Improvement Trust Act so as to extend to Calcutta itself the power which the Trust now exercise only in the vicinity of Calcutta. Care has at the same time been taken to prevent interference by the Trust with any of the other powers to regulate building operations at present exercised by the General Committee of the Corporation. Provision has also been made to give the widest publicity in connection with the publication, consideration, and sanction of plans of projected public streets and the final decision in the matter has been left with the Local Government and not with the Trust. Further, by clause 2 of the Bill, a "projected public street" is clearly differentiated from an "improvement scheme" as defined in the Act, and thus the application of section 23(*2*) of the Land Acquisition Act, 1894, is insured in the case of land acquired by the Board under sub-section (*10*) of the proposed new section 63. The effect of this will be that the 15 per cent. additional compensation ordinarily payable under the Land Acquisition Act will have to be paid for land acquired for a "projected public street", notwithstanding the special provisions of article 9(*1*) of the Schedule to the Calcutta Improvement Act which dispenses with the payment of such additional compensation when land is acquired within the limits of the Calcutta Municipality in connection with improvement schemes under that Act. The provisions of section 352 of the Calcutta Municipal Act and of section 63 of the Improvement Act in so far as they only allow compensation for actual damage to the owner of land falling within the alignment of a projected street, have been replaced by providing for acquisition of such land as soon as permission to build on the land being refused the owner asks for such acquisition. This gives a decided advantage to the owners of land in Calcutta and its vicinity.

In order to give full effect to these proposals it has been found necessary to amend the Schedule to the Act by introducing certain further modifications in the Land Acquisition Act. They are detailed in clause 8 of the Bill.

Subordinate clauses (*bb*) and (*bbb*) which it is proposed to add to article 9 of the Schedule to the Calcutta Improvement Act call for no remarks but special attention of the Hon'ble Members is invited to clause (*bbbb*), as the principle underlying this amendment, which is explained below, is not in any way specially connected with the proposed amendment of section 63 of the Improvement Act.

In Calcutta and other large towns the value of land depends mainly on its distance from the nearest road or street. When land abutting on a street is to be acquired, it is ordinarily divided, for purposes of valuation, into zones running parallel to the street. The front zone is valued at by far the highest rate, and the zones behind are valued at rates which diminish as their distance from the street increases. If the front zone is acquired and is included in the

street, the second zone immediately becomes a front zone, and its value rises accordingly. All the zones behind likewise increase in value on account of the decrease in their distance from the street. In accordance with the general principle underlying the Act, viz. that the enhancement of land values resulting from the operations of the Trust shall accrue to the benefit of the public, it appears equitable that the compensation payable for the land acquired in such cases shall be calculated at the difference between the orginal value of the whole premises before acquisition and the value which the remaining portion will have after the land acquired has been included in the street. This proposal, though at variance with clause *sixthly* of section 24 of the Land Acquisition Act is in accordance with the principles underlying recent legislation in Great Britain, as, for instance. article 2(*c*) of the Schedule to the development and Road Improvement Funds Act, 1909, and section 41(*2*) (*b*) of the Housing of the working Classes Act, 1890.

The remaining clauses of the Bill deal with other consequential amendments, which have been sufficiently explained in the Notes on Clauses appended to the Bill."

The motion was put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble Nawab Syed Shams-ul-Huda moved that the said Bill be referred to a Select Committee consisting of the Hon'ble Mr. Samman, the Hon'ble Mr. Bompas, the Hon'ble Mr. Payne, the Hon'ble Raja Dinendra Narayan Ray, the Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur, the Hon'ble Mr. Grice, the Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Ray and the mover, with instructions to submit their report in time for its presentation in Council at the meeting to be held in January next, and explained in doing so why it was desirable to move this motion at this meeting despite the fact that the Bill had only been in Members' hands for five days.

The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR said :—

"My Lord,—I am grateful for the provision of payment of 15 per cent. compensation, in the Bill in respect of land falling within the projected street, which the Board of Trustees will be empowered to prescribe under the proposed law ; but, my Lord, there are other provisions in the Bill which require careful consideration. My Lord, I fail to see any special reason for the great hurry with which this Bill is proposed to be pushed through. The Bill is a very important measure affecting the people of Calcutta, especially those interested in land and buildings, and it cannot be denied even by the Chairman of the Calcutta Improvement Trust that the vast majority of them are poor, middle-class people living from hand to mouth—widows, orphans and poor men, who in their thousands crowd round the table of the Committees, sitting to hear objections, clinging desperately to their ancestral holdings and shedding tears at the prospect of acquisition of their properties. In the peculiar circumstances of the country, almost every man of the "Bhadrolok" class, however poor, generally possesses a plot of land on which he lives from generation to generation.

The Calcutta Improvement Act, in my personal experience of the last three years of its operation, has chiefly affected them. Any amendment of the present Act, tending towards a further severity of its provisions, requires the widest publicity and ample time for public consideration. I can truly say that not even one per cent. of the population of Calcutta belonging to the middle class are aware of the proposed legislation, which will affect their interests very materially. The Bill was circulated about 5 or 6 days ago to the Members of the Council. I do not think that Hon'ble Members have had sufficient time to consider and discuss the important principles involved in [illegible] and

it is but meet and proper that the Bill should be published after its introduction, and public opinion invited thereon. My Lord, I crave that the Bill be not referred to the Select Committee so hurriedly and at once, without giving the public a fair opportunity for submitting their well-considered views before the Government. My Lord, it is true that the Corporation was consulted on the proposed amendment of Section 63, but there is a wider public who are directly affected by this measure. My Lord, the principle of the Bill, as I understand it, is to give power to the Board to declare projected public streets within the area of the Calcutta Municipality within which the erection or re-erection, addition to or alteration of a building or even the wall of a building is forbidden under a penalty, though the completion of a projected street may be indefinitely put off. Under the present law, a street scheme is framed, objections heard, and steps are forthwith taken for the acquisition of property and opening out of the road. But under the proposed law, the projected street may be declared to-day, but the proposed projected street scheme may be matured and considered 10, 15 and even 20 years hence and the poor owner whose house falls within the projected street will not be able to reconstruct a wall of his house or rebuild and improve a single room to make it more sanitary and habitable.

There are some very important changes proposed by this Bill in the Land Acquisition Act and which were not in the original proposal before the Corporation which will come as a surprise upon the public. The provision disregarding the decrease of the market value of the premises owing to its falling within or near to the alignment of the projected public street will operate very harshly upon the owner of the holding in two ways. First as regards the necessity for repairing or remodelling the remaining portion and, second, as to convenience. There must be numerous instances where, by the acquisition of a portion of a property, the value and convenient enjoyment of the remaining portion must be seriously crippled, and he will not have adequate compensation for such injury. Take for instance the best bedrooms of a house or the out-offices which fall within the projected street and there is no other space within the remaining portion of the property for reconstruction of the same. Is it not just and proper that the person suffering such injury should receive adequate compensation for the loss. There is, I venture to submit, my Lord, another innovation attempted to be introduced in the last sub-clause of clause 8. And this was not communicated to the Corporation for opinion. It is proposed to exclude the application of the sixth clause of section 24 of the Land Acquisition Act in connection with the acquisition of land having frontages on existing roads: under this clause, if a portion of a house or land is acquired, the market value of that piece of land is paid as compensation to the owner. It is however proposed in the Bill in supersession of the Land Acquisition Act that the market value of such land or building shall be deemed to be the difference between the market value of the whole of such premises at the date of the publication of the declaration and the estimated market value of the remainder of the premises upon the inclusion in the street of the land acquired, it is possible to establish the present market value by tangible evidence based on the present income of the property or neighbouring sales or other relevant evidence; but the future increase in value is an illusive and intangible thing about which there cannot be any positive data. It will depend upon mere guess work and it cannot possibly be determined on the basis of actual transaction as such transaction can only come into existence after the entire length of the road is opened out and completed. The injustice of the proposed innovation will be further patent when we remember that in supersession of the Land Acquisition Act, future rise in value of land or the value according to the best disposition of land is to be disregarded by the Board and the market value has to be determined according to the present disposition of the land, whereas against the interest of the owner and in

Rai R. C. Pal Bahadur.

favour of the Board the future rise in value of the remaining land is to be deducted from the amount of the compensation to be paid to the owner of the land. My Lord, may I in this connection remind your Lordship that this amendment in effect seeks to introduce, in a different form, the levy of the recoupment fee by the Board which was disallowed by the Secretary of State at the time when the original Calcutta Improvement Bill was before him. My Lord, it is not clear whether in the case of a projected public street regular street-scheme will also be prepared and published for criticism and hearing of objections, if so it may be possible that in considering a particular street-scheme when it is fully matured the projected road-line may be shifted after hearing objections. If again it is contemplated that no separate scheme will be prepared for criticism and hearing of objections it will give rise to misunderstanding and dissatisfaction for in the consideration of the street-scheme the objectors are heard personally. Co-opted members from the locality are added to the Board. All these will be denied in connection with the preparation of projected public-street. Scarcely three years have elapsed since the Calcutta Improvement Act has come into execution. The work has begun and not a single scheme has yet been completed, yet within such a short time it is thought to amend the Act, not with a view to remedy any defect found in actual administration of the Act, but to invest the Board of Trustees with additional powers, to introduce a new principle of payment of compensation which does not even find a place in the Bombay Improvement Act. My Lord, I have enumerated some of the important points which the public will require time to consider and submit their representation to your Excellency's Government. Nothing will be lost by acceding to our prayer to give adequate time for the consideration of the measure. On the contrary the people will be profoundly grateful for such deference to public opinion. Let the Bill be published, let it be circulated to the public bodies for expression of opinion and then let the Bill go to the Select Committee with all the materials at the disposal.

My Lord, the instruction to the Select Committee, as laid down in the Agenda, is to report before the next meeting of the Council in January next. This is, I respectfully submit, not at all giving a reasonable time even to the Members of the Committee. The X'mas holidays begin next week and not a few of the Hon'ble Members will be engrossed in various Congresses and Conferences in and out of town and may not have time to devote their attention to the Bill within so short a time. I appeal to Your Excellency to graciously accede to our prayer. Knowing well how reasonable and sympathetic the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill is, I venture to hope that he will support us in our modest request to Your Excellency. If the Bill is still referred to the Select Committee at this stage I would crave Your Excellency's permission to move that the Select Committee be instructed to report at the March meeting of the Council instead of in January. If I am deemed to be out of order in moving this amendment, I beg to submit to Your Lordship that the Bill was not in our hands until five or six days before to-day's sitting of the Council. We had to read the Bill and to consider the provisions and then only we came to know the importance of the measure and that is the reason, My Lord, that no formal notice of the amendment could be given.

Your Excellency has the supreme power. May I, a humble Member of Your Excellency's Council, pray that my request for time may be granted? But if, my Lord, the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill be pleased to amend his motion and extend the time of reference to the Select Committee to March next, there would be no necessity of my moving an amendment. With these words, my Lord, I leave the matter in Your Excellency's hands.

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI said :—

"I desire to associate myself fully with the appeal which has been made by the Hon'ble Member behind me. The Bill is a highly technical one, and it contains provisions which are, as the Hon'ble Member has pointed out, of a somewhat drastic character. The public know little or nothing about the contents of this Bill. Undoubtedly the Bill has been published in the Gazette, but how many of the public read the Gazette. Unless there is discussion in the public press about the provisions of this Bill, the public cannot be expected to know much about it. Having regard to the drastic character of the Bill, the important interest involved therein, and the widespread dissatisfaction which the hurrying of the Bill through the Council will cause, I venture to associate myself with my hon'ble friend in the earnest appeal which he has made to your Excellency that, if the reference to the Select Committee cannot be postponed, at any rate, the Bill may not be taken up till the Council meets in March next."

The Hon'ble RAJA DINENDRA NARAYAN RAY said :—

"My Lord—I desire to associate myself fully with what has fallen from the Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur. I do not think that the Improvement Trust will be hampered in any way by the delay of two or three months, and I think that it is very desirable that we should have the opinion of the public and the corporate bodies."

The Hon'ble MR. BOMPAS said :—

"My Lord—I am sorry that the representatives of the Corporation of Calcutta in this Council should have such a poor opinion of the discussions in the Corporation as a means of bringing to the citizens of Calcutta matters which particularly affect their interest. I quite admit that if this Bill had been submitted to Government by the Calcutta Improvement Trust and had not otherwise been discussed, there would have been some reason for the citizens to ask for time for further consideration of the provisions of the Bill. But this is not the case. This Bill was submitted with the full consent of the Corporation of Calcutta, after it had been fully discussed in Committee and at a general meeting. All the proceedings of the Corporation are reported in the daily press, and the citizens of Calcutta through their representatives in the Corporation have had full opportunity for considering this Bill.

I may point out, my Lord, that this Bill was put forward not in the interests of the Improvement Trust but in the interests of the local public. Speaking as Chairman of the Improvement Trust, I can say that people are constantly coming to me and saying "I wish to build a house or a place of business. Can you tell me where I can put up a building which will not be pulled down in the course of the operations of the Trust in the next few years?" and I am unable to give them any guarantee. I can only tell them that certain things are in contemplation. If this Bill is passed, they will have the assurance that if they abstain from building in view of future operations of the trust, they will have full compensation.

The Bill contains no novel principles. It gives to the Trust a power which has for years been exercised by the General Committee of the

Corporation and which is exercised by the Trust in the suburbs of Calcutta. Even the detailed provisions of the Bill, which are liable to modification by the Select Committee, involve, as far as I know, nothing new. The particular clause which the Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur has taken exception to is about the decrease in value not being taken into consideration if the land is hereafter acquired. But that is quite in favour of the owner. If the land has been decreased in value by the alignment of the Trust, then the owner is not to be mulcted for the decrease. The Trust will have to pay as if the value has not been decreased. That is surely fair and is in favour of the private owner and not in favour of the Trust.

The other provision to which the Hon'ble Member has referred and which may be said to be novel to Calcutta, that is to say, that the damage caused to a man by taking a part of his land shall be estimated to be the difference between the present and future land value is not a novelty in legislation. This provision has been in force in Bombay for the last 13 years."

The Hon'ble MR. CHAKRAVARTI said :—

"My Lord—I had very little desire to take part in the discussion, because I frankly confess that after the discomfiture in connection with the original Improvement Bill which was passed into law, I have taken a very very despondent view with regard to any opposition to a measure of that kind, because the idea which was then put forward and which has been repeatedly put forward is that so far as the landlord is concerned he is a bloated creature who ought to be bled and therefore he can hardly have any grievance, whether he has a large estate like my friend the Hon'ble Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan or a small holder or owner of a private house in Calcutta. But, it seems to me that, with regard to the postponement of the reference of this Bill to the Select Committee till March, it is an extremely reasonable proposal, and I do not see any reason whatever why this modest request which has been made by one of the members of the Municipal Corporation as to the necessity for public discussion should not be conceded by your Excellency's Government. It seems to me that if the matter is kept in abeyance till March nothing will happen to Calcutta. It will not disappear, and regard being had to the contraction of trade owing to war and the paucity of money, we have to think of a great many other things besides the beautifying of our city. In any case we might wait for three months. The delay would not injure the prospect of our having a nice city with nice improvements all round. For all these reasons, my Lord, I have great pleasure in supporting the request which has been made by the Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur."

The Hon'ble NAWAB SYED SHAMS-UL-HUDA said :—

"My Lord—A good deal has been said about the provisions of this Bill and my friend the Hon'ble Rai Radha Churn Pal Bahadur has drawn a picture of the miseries which this Bill if enacted would inflict upon the people of Calcutta. As I read the Bill, I do not think for a moment that any such consequences will follow. As I pointed out, in introducing the Bill, it may be divided into two parts ; the first part is that which deals with matters that are practically dealt with in much the same way in section 63 of the existing Act and there is also section 356 of the Calcutta Municipal Act, which deals with the very same thing. The only difference is that in the

Calcutta Municipal Act it is left to the General Committee to project streets and if necessary to interfere with buildings on street lines; under the Improvement Trust that power is left in the Trust and one of the objects of this Bill is to give the same authority the power to deal with the same matters, whether arising within the limits of the Calcutta Municipality or outside these limits. So far, therefore, as this Bill is concerned, as I said in moving for its introduction, it introduces no new principle and it inflicts no new miseries on the people; it makes only a difference as to the authority that would exercise the powers under the Act. So far as we have introduced any modifications, they are distinctly in favour of the land-owners of Calcutta. It removes the uncertainty which has hitherto existed. As soon as a street is projected and an alignment made everybody knows that there will be a street in a particular place, and everybody decides for himself whether he will erect any buildings on the land or not. Under the law as it stands, *i.e.*, the Calcutta Improvement Act as well as the Calcutta Municipal Act, when a building was set back on account of a street alignment the only remedy which the land-owner could get—if he wanted to build and permission to do so was refused—was damages. Under the new Bill, as soon as permission to build is refused, the land-owner has a right to come forward and ask that the land shall forthwith be acquired and full value paid for it. It seems to me, therefore, that it is distinctly in favour of the land-owner and not against him. It is also no doubt to the benefit of the Trust, because if new buildings are raised and demolished, it means so much waste of money to the Trust. So far therefore as the first part of the Bill is concerned, I repeat that no new principle is involved in it, and if the existing provisions of the law have been as disastrous as my friend would depict them, all I can say is that the disaster has existed for several years.

Then, as regards the other provision about the valuation of land, that is no doubt a new principle. My hon'ble friend has said that it does not find a place in the Bombay Act. He is misinformed as to this, because so far as clause sixthly of the Land Acquisition Act to which reference has been made, is concerned, this has been repealed by section 47 of the Bombay Act. The principle is not one as to which it will be of any use to take the Calcutta public into confidence. It is no doubt a new principle so far as Bengal is concerned, and it seems to me to be obvious that in view of their personal interest, the opinion of Calcutta land-owners will be against it. The point is whether it is an equitable principle or not. After all the benefit ultimately accrues to the Calcutta public. It is not the Improvement Trust which gets all the benefit. Instead of an individual getting more than he ought to get, the money goes to the Trust. I do not think that any one who has carefully examined the provisions of the Bill with a fair mind will object to this provision in the Bill.

It has been admitted that the Bill is an improvement so far as the statutory allowance of 15 per cent. is given. Under the Calcutta Improvement Act, it is not now payable. On the whole, therefore, the Bill is in favour of the Calcutta owners, and they have no just grounds to object to any provisions of the Bill. I admit that the time allowed to Hon'ble Members to consider the Bill has so far been short, but we propose to make up for this by postponing the sitting of the Select Committee till the first week of January. That will give Hon'ble Members ample time to study the Bill and to form their opinions. My hon'ble friend, Mr. Bompas, has already pointed out that this Bill was fully debated in the Calcutta Corporation and the public know by this time what are its effects. I, therefore, beg that your Excellency will allow the Bill to go to the Select Committee without any further adjournment, as your Excellency may do under rule 32 (3) of our Rules.

Babu S. N. Ray.

The motion was then put and a division taken with the following result :—

Ayes 25.

The Hon'ble M . P. C. Lyon, C.S.I.
The Hon'ble Nawab Syed Shams-ul-Huda.
The Hon'ble Mr. N. D. Beatson Bell, C.I.E.
The Hon'ble Mr. J. H. Kerr, C.I.E.
The Hon'ble Mr. H. L. Stephenson, C.I.E.
The Hon'ble Mr. H. F. Samman.
The Hon'ble Mr. H. H. Green.
The Hon'ble Mr. F. A. A. Cowley.
The Hon'ble Mr. B. B. Newbould.
The Hon'ble Mr. C. J Stevenson-Moore, C.V.O.
The Hon'ble Mr. H. J. Hilary.
The Hon'ble Rai Priya Nath Mukharji Bahadur.
The Hon'ble Surgeon-General Harris, C.S.I.
The Hon'ble Mr. C. F. Payne.
The Hon'ble Mr. C. H. Bompas.
The Hon'ble Mr. W. W. Hornell.
The Hon'ble Mr. F. J. Monahan.
The Hon'ble Nawab Sayyid Hossam Haidar Chaudhuri, Khan Bahadur.
The Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Faz-ul-Haq.
The Hon'ble Rai Nalinaksha Basu Bahadur.
The Hon'ble Mr. W. T Grice.
The Hon'ble Mr. G. A. Bayley.
The Hon'ble Mr. E. H. Bray.
The Hon'ble Mr. F. H. Stewart, C.I.E.
The Hon'ble Mr. A. W. C. Chaplin.

Noes 19.

The Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Ray.
The Hon'ble Dr. Nilratan Sarkar.
The Hon'ble Raja Hrishikesh Laha, C.I.E.
The Hon'ble Mr. G. H. C. Ariff.
The Hon'ble Maulvi Mazharul Anwar Chaudhuri.
The Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Banerji.
The Hon'ble Babu Mahendra Nath Ray, C.I.E.
The Hon'ble Rai Hari Mohan Chandra Bahadur.
The Hon'ble Chaudhuri Muhammad Ismail Khan.
The Hon'ble Dr. Deba Prasad Sarbadhikari, C.I.E.
The Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur.
The Hon'ble Babu Upendra Lal Ray.
The Hon'ble Mr. S P. Sinha.
The Hon'ble Mr. Byomkes Chakravarti.
The Hon'ble Raja Mahendra Ranjan Ray Chaudhuri.
The Hon'ble Raja Dinendra Narayan Ray.
The Hon'ble Nawab Saiyid Nawab Ali Chaudhuri, Khan Bahadur.
The Hon'ble Maharaja Ranajit Sinha of Nashipur
The Hon'ble Sir Bijay Chand Mahtab, K.C.S.I., K.C.I.E., I.O.M., Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan.

The following Members were absent :—

The Hon'ble Mr. J. G. Cumming, C.I.E.
The Hon'ble Mr. B. C. Mitra.
The Hon'ble Babu Prasanna Kumar Ray.
The Hon'ble Maulvi Musharraf Husain.
The Hon'ble Maharaja Jagadindra Nath Ray.
The Hon'ble Nawab Sir Khwaja Salimullah Bahadur, G.C.I.E., K.C.S.I., of Dacca.
The Hon'ble Mr. R. Glen.

The Hon'ble Raja Shoshi Kanta Acharyya Chaudhuri Bahadur abstained from voting.

The result of the division being Ayes 25, Noes 19, the motion was carried.

RESOLUTION.

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 7.

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH RAY moved that this Council recommends to the Governor in Council that a City Civil Court, separate from the Calcutta High Court, be established in Calcutta, for the trial of suits valued at Rs. 10,000 or under, or of such other valuation as the Government

may think proper which may be instituted within the Original Civil jurisdiction of the said High Court, and that Government be pleased to take the necessary steps for the early establishment of such a City Court.

He said :—

"At present suits regarding landed property situated within the town of Calcutta, however small its value may be, and money suits above Rs. 2,000 in value have to be brought in the Original Side of the High Court. Suits regarding landed property situated outside Calcutta, *i.e.*, on the other side of the Circular Road and money suits however large their value may be are brought in the Court of the Sub-Judge at Alipore. It is well known that costs incurred by suitors in the Original Side of the High Court are generally very large, sometimes they exceed the amount of the claim. In many instances poor people cannot get any redress as costs of the Original Side of the High Court are prohibitory, whereas they are sometimes ruined in defending a suit. To prosecute or defend a suit in the Original Side of the High Court it is necessary to engage the services of a solicitor as well as at least one counsel and in many cases two counsel. In the Mufassal Courts such as the Court of the District Judge or Sub-Judge or a Munsiff at Alipore the same case can be conducted by a Pleader at a very small cost. The incidental costs are also much less. In my opinion the costly and elaborate machinery of the Original Side of the High Court which compels a suitor to engage both a Solicitor and a Barrister in every case is not necessary for the trial of a large number of cases which are now being tried there. The costs must necessarily be considerably over the costs of a suit in a Mufassal Court.

My proposal is for the establishment of a Civil Court for Calcutta separate from the High Court where suits regarding money or landed property of less than Rs. 10,000 in value or such valuation as the Government may think proper may be tried. It will be a Court subordinate to the High Court. In all cases tried by the said Court there will be an appeal to the High Court in its Appellate Side. It will be a Court in which Barristers, Vakils, Attorneys and Pleaders will have the equal right of appearing and conducting cases as in the Court of the District Judge or Sub-Judge. The procedure of the said Court will be that which governs all cases in the Mufassal Courts and not the complicated machinery of the Original Side of the High Court, nor the summary procedure of the Small Cause Court. The Court fee to be paid at the time of the institution of the suit will be that payable in the Mufassal Courts and not that payable in the Presidency Small Cause Court. It will be a Court of Record. It will be a Court which will be presided over by an experienced Barrister, Vakil or Sub-Judge. The system which compels a suitor to engage the services of both a Solicitor and a Barrister to conduct his case will have no place there. There will be no taxed Bills, no allocator to terrify an unfortunate litigant. The Court will have power to try all sorts of suits except those relating to wills, insolvency, admiralty and matrimony. But if the Court proves to be a success and the public demand, its powers may be extended to the trial of those suits as well.

In Madras, a City Civil Court was established so long ago as 1892 giving the said Court power to try cases regarding landed properties and money suits up to Rs. 5,000 in value which had hitherto been tried in the Original Side of the Madras High Court. The Bill for the establishment of a City Civil Court for Madras was introduced in the Supreme Council by Sir Philip Hutchins, then Home Member of the Government of India, who was a distinguished Judge of the Madras High Court before his elevation to the Supreme Council.

One of the principal reasons which has induced me to bring forward the Resolution in the Council for the establishment of a City Civil Court for Calcutta is that the people of Calcutta who have the misfortune of being

litigants either as plaintiffs or defendants in an action may have a cheap and speedy machinery to enforce their rights or for the redress of their wrongs or to defend themselves in suits of comparatively small value. The elaborate machinery in force in the Original Side of the High Court is not in most cases suited to the requirements of this country or its people. To quote the words of Sir Philip Hutchins in introducing the Bill for a City Civil Court for Madras, "The first is to remove that practical denial of justice to a not insignificant portion of the inhabitants of the City.....inevitable under the present system of judicial administration in the Presidency town. And the second is to obviate the lamentable waste of judicial power involved in that system, which requires every petty dispute not technically a small cause to be fully investigated by so high an officer as a Judge or perhaps even a Chief Justice of the High Court." In a memorial submitted to Government by some of the land-owners of Calcutta for the establishment of a City Civil Court for Calcutta so far back as the year 1904, the memorialists submitted, "there were many widows entitled to maintenence and right of residence; there were several persons deprived and dispossessed of immovable properties and owning small estates in Calcutta, seeking to enforce partition; several traders desiring to have dissolution of partnership; many persons desiring to bring suits for account, specific performance of contract and declaratory decrees, and several other persons seeking the interference of the Civil Court in matters of comparatively small value which are cognisable by the Original Side of the High Court but who are really debarred from bringing suits in that Court simply by reason of expense and delay involved in the suits in the High Court." In a letter dated the 27th February 1885, embodying the proposals of the Madras High Court regarding a City Civil Court for Madras, Sir Charles Turner, one of the best Chief Justices of the Madras High Court said, "The exclusive jurisdiction of the Madras High Court in a certain class of cases entails on poor suitors expense altogether out of proportion to the benefit they derive from the presumed superiority of the forum. It not unfrequently happens that suits are instituted for the partition of immovable property where costs incurred exceed the value of the subject-matter."..... If the observations of Sir Charles Turner are applicable to Madras, they are applicable with greater force to Calcutta.

It was about the year 1773 that the Government in England thought of interfering with the method of administration of India by the East India Company. The Regulating Act (13 George III) was passed and by the Royal Charter which was granted on the 26th March in pursuance of the said Act the Supreme Court was established in Calcutta. The Court was constituted not only as a Court of Equity as the Court of Chancery in England but also a Court of Oyer and Terminer and Goal Delivery for Calcutta and Fort William and the factories subordinate thereto. It was also enacted as an Ecclesiastical Court and a Court of Admiralty.

All readers of history know full well the result of the establishment of the Supreme Court in Calcutta at that period, this planting of an exotic upon a foreign and uncongenial soil—how it spread consternation throughout the length and breadth of the land and became a terror to the people owing to the oppressive and novel machinery employed by the Court for enforcing its orders.

The Act of 1773 however was doomed to failure as it was utterly unsuited to the wants of the country. The Act of 1781 (21 George III C. 70) was passed to amend the Act of 1773. It was enacted among others by the new Act that no person should be subject to the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court by virtue of possessing any interest in, or authority over lands or rents within Bengal, Bihar or Orissa or by reason of his becoming security for the payment of such rents.

The Supreme Court however continued to exist though shorn of some of its powers. In the words of Mr. Cowell, himself an English Barrister with

Indian experience, "nothing, however, in its subsequent history serves to justify or excuse the policy of its founders. Their attempt to introduce an English superintendence of law and justice on the part of the Crown, and an administration of English rules of law and equity by the English Court, modelled according to English fashion, was made rashly and ignorantly, without any sufficient scheme or due proportion." The result of the passing of the two Acts was that in the mufassal, throughout the Province, Civil, Revenue and Criminal Courts were established suited to the requirements of the country and the people, whereas in the Presidency towns, the Supreme courts administered English law with slight modifications and were governed by the English system of procedure.

A Bill was introduced in Parliament by Sir Charles Wood in 1853 with the object of abolishing the Supreme Courts and the Presidency Town and mufassal systems and constitute in each Presidency town a High Court of Judicature which should be supreme over all the courts both in the Presidency towns and also in the mufassal. The members of the Indian Law Commission approved of the proposed change but inasmuch as the codes of procedure had not been passed, the proposal could not be carried out but remained with a mere alteration in the name, viz., the Original Side of the High Court. Whatever justification there might have been to establish the Supreme Courts in 1773 or to keep them up in the form of the Original Side of the High Courts in 1862 when the High Courts were constituted, there cannot be any justification for retaining the Original Side after the passing of the Procedure Codes and the codification of most of the important laws. There cannot be any ground for keeping up the King's courts and the Company's courts, the Presidency town system and the mufassal system, as two distinct institutions after the laws had been codified.

It is because the costs on the Original Side of the High Court are excessive in comparison with the costs in the mufassal courts and that the proceedings there are dilatory, and also to bring justice within the means of every person wronged by his fellow man that I am moving this resolution. It is however said that in the Original Side of the High Court the expenses are cheap in the long run—the plaintiff has not to pay the heavy *ad-valorem* court-fee which has to be paid in filing a suit in a mufassal court or in the Calcutta Small Cause Court and that people prefer to have their cases tried in the High Court. I shall simply place certain facts and figures which will speak for themselves.

Under section 21 of the Presidency Small Cause Court Act concurrent jurisdiction is given to the High Court and the Calcutta Small Cause Court in suits valued at Rs. 1,000 to Rs. 2,000, *i.e.*, election is given to the plaintiff to choose his own forum. I find from enquiry that the number of suits Civil and miscellaneous valued at Rs. 1,000 to Rs. 2,000 instituted in the Calcutta Small Cause Court in the year 1911 was 971, in the High Court it was 106; in the year 1912 in the Small Cause Court, it was 954, in the High Court it was 86; in the year 1913, in the Small Cause Court it was 918, in the High Court it was 90. The above figures show that in nearly ninety per cent. of the cases where election is given to the plaintiff he prefers the Small Cause Court to the High Court, though not only heavy *ad-valorem* court-fee, nearly double that of mufassal courts has to be paid by the plaintiff at the time of the institution of the suit, but that the procedure in the trial of cases is summary and there is no appeal against the judgment of the Small Cause Court. Again, under section 39 of the Presidency Small Cause Courts Act, the defendant has the right to apply for transfer of a case from the Small Cause Court to the High Court in suits valued at Rs. 1,000 to Rs. 2,000. In the year 1911, only 17 cases were so transferred, in the year 1912 only 12 cases, and in the year 1913, only 16 cases were so transferred, not 10 per cent. of the cases as has been stated by some people but only a little above 1 per cent. of the cases. How on the face of the above

facts any inference has been drawn by some people that the litigant public of Calcutta would much more prefer their suits to be tried on the Original Side of the High Court than in another glorified Small Cause Court as they think the proposed City Court will turn out to be. I for my part fail to see. I think the inference is the other way. People prefer even the Small Cause Court to the High Court on account of its prohibitive costs as also its dilatory proceedings.

I do not want to cite the well-known *Bhukailas* Partition Case, cases arising out of the estate of *Gopal Lal Seal, Salaji's Estate* or the *Sobhabazar Raj Estate* in illustration of the heavy costs and dilatoriness of proceedings of the Original Side of the High Court. I shall give you a few instances showing the ordinary costs which a party has to pay to institute or defend a suit. I cite them not because in those particular cases the costs have been rather heavy but they are ordinary costs which a suitor has to incur. Some of them have casually come to my notice and I have personal experience of some of them.

In the case of *Udit Narain Singh* v. *Brindaban Chobay* (suit No. 577 of 1912), the valuation of the suit was only 1,375. Only written statement was filed by the defendant. The case was decided *ex parte*. The costs which the defendant had to pay was Rs. 1,149. In the Mufassal Court, the costs would never have exceeded Rs. 150 including the costs of the defendant.

Karunamoye Devi v. *The Administrator-General of Bengal*, was a suit for maintenance brought in the Original Side of the High Court by the step-mother against a minor whose estate then happened to be under the Administrator-General of Bengal. The only question was what was the amount of maintenance to which the lady was entitled. The cost amounted to about forty thousand rupees. In the mufassal, in the Munsiff Court the costs would have been about Rs. 150 or Rs. 160 and in a Sub-Judge's Court about Rs. 500 all told including the costs for *ad valorem* court-fee, &c.

Suit No. 525 of 1912 *Shambhu Chandra Das* v. *Manmatha Nath Das* and others was a suit by a reversioner to recover possession of property worth about Rs. 5,000. No evidence was taken by the Judge but a decree was given on the construction of the conveyance. The defendant besides the costs of his own Attorney, had to pay Rs. 500 as out of pocket expenses, *viz.*, fees for counsel, &c. The bill of costs submitted by the plaintiff's attorney to the defendant's Attorney amounted to Rs. 1,186. In the Mufassal court, the defendant would never have been obliged to incur an expense of more than Rs. 650 including *ad valorem* court-fee payable by the defendant to the plaintiff.

Suit No. 296 of 1910 *Lolit Mohun Ghose* v. *Promotho Nath Dey* was a suit for partition of about 4 catas or about 2,880 sq. ft. of land worth about Rs. 5,000. There was no contest and no partition became necessary as the plaintiff purchased the share sought to be partitioned pending the suit. The plaintiff however had to pay Rs. 890 as costs. In the Court of the Sub-Judge the costs would never have exceeded Rs. 60 or Rs. 70.

Suit No. 400 of 1905 *Jogemaya Dasi* v. *Akhoy Kumar Das* was also one for partition of immovable properties. There was no dispute as to the share of the respective parties. The properties were worth above a lac of rupees. A commissioner was appointed to partition the properties. As a preliminary step, properties worth Rs. 22,000 were first sold to meet the fees of Solicitors and Commissioner for partition. The proceedings are still going on and we are in the end of the year 1914 and Rs. 10,000 have already been spent as costs. Besides the above sum Rs. 1,500 were paid by the plaintiffs to their solicitors up to the date of the decree for partition. In a Sub-Judge's Court in the Mufassal the whole thing could have been completed within two years and that for Rs. 500 or Rs. 600.

In Suit No. 311 of 1898 *Nistarini Dasi* v. *Benode Behari Bose* and others the Commission fee of one single witness was Rs. 22,899. The costs which

the defendants had to pay to the plaintiff in the Original Court were Rs. 38,495. In the Appeal the expenses of one side was Rs. 51,133. I have not seen the bill of costs of Appeal which the defendant had to pay to the plaintiff.

I had to give instructions and had to pay the costs on behalf of a relation of mine to execute two rent decrees, the decrees having been transferred from the Mufassal Court to the High Court. There was no opposition by the judgment-debtor. All that was done was to apply for the settlement of the sale proclamation. The costs however came up to more than Rs. 600 as between Attorney and client and an equal amount had to be paid by the judgment-debtor to the decree-holder's solicitor. I do not know how much the judgment-debtor had to pay to his own solicitor as costs. In the Mufassal the entire costs would never have exceeded Rs. 50. The name of the decree-holder is Saratmani Devi.

In the execution case of *Brojo Gopal Mukerjee* v. *Kedar Nath Ghosh* which was a Small Cause Court decree for only about Rs. 50. but transferred to the Original Side of the High Court for execution, the costs of execution came up to the modest sum of only Rs. 700.

It is said that in mortgage cases the costs are much cheaper in the Original Side of the High Court than in the Mufassal Courts. In looking into the question of costs we must look as much to the interests of the mortgagee as those of the mortgagor. In a recent case in the Original Side of the High Court the case of *Radha Ramon Pal* v. *Gobardhan Ghosh* which was a mortgage case, the amount of the mortgage money together with interest came up to about Rs. 4,650. The costs including costs of execution proceedings subsequent to the decree amounted to about Rs. 2,400. There was no contest by the judgment-debtor throughout the proceedings. The costs in a Sub-Judge's Court would never have exceeded Rs. 400, *i.e.*, $\frac{1}{6}$ of the costs of the Original Side of the High Court. An argument has been advanced times without number that in the Original Side of the High Court, a plaintiff has not to pay the heavy court-fee at the time of the institution of the suit which he has to do in the Mufassal Court. But is it not a fact that in every application that one has to make in a suit, he has to pay court-fee of Rs. 15 or Rs. 16, whereas in a Mufassal Court all applications cost only 8 annas in court-fee? A suitor knows very well how many applications have to be made in a court during the pendency of a suit. Is it not a fact that during the hearing of a case a litigant has to pay Rs. 20 per diem in court-fee whereas in a Mufassal Court he has to pay nothing? But these form very small items of expenditure in a suit on the Original Side of the High Court.

We have heard a good deal of late about the reduction of costs in the Original Side of the High Court by the introduction of a new scale of fees. Why, only the other day, the taxed costs of one side alone in a Probate case were—a lac and twenty six thousand rupees!

Again, the very fact that one has not to pay an *ad valorem* court-fee in the Original Side of the High Court at the time of the institution of the suit tempts him to swell his claim and instances may be cited to verify the above fact.

There are some who say that the justice which is dispensed in the Original Side of the High Court is one which is worth all the money that is spent upon it, that though it is dear, still it is worth having. All I can say is that the operation performed in the Original Side of the High Court may be successful, but the patient generally succumbs after the operation. But I ask in all seriousness, is the justice which is now being administered in the Mufassal Courts by Indian judges of such inferior type that it is necessary to incur ruinous expenditure to get justice in the Original Side of the High Court! In the evidence taken before the Select Committee on Indian territories in the year 1853, the Right Hon'ble Sir Edward Ryan, Privy Councillor, said, "In the judicial system 98 per cent. of the cases for trial are

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tried before native judges, and the evidence is unanimous, I believe, that their decisions are logical, well composed, and in every way extremely good, though they have not had the advantages which might be supplied of a good early legal education." This was in the year 1853 before the universities were founded, before the spread of that English education, general, scientific and legal, throughout the length and breadth of the land which has brought about the intellectual revolution of this country.

That Civil justice as administered by the judiciary in the Mufassal specially by Sub-Judges is generally satisfactory and that their judgments and orders do not compare unfavourably with those of some of the judges sitting on the Original Side of the High Court will be clear if the result of appeals is compared.

It is said that in a Mufassal Court cases are not decided with due despatch and that the decree-holder is generally put to great harassment in executing his decree. As regards the charge of dilatoriness in proceedings before a Munsiff or a Sub-Judge all I can say is that a Sub-Judge besides the trial of ordinary suits has to try execution cases and dispose of miscellaneous matters and to hear appeals against the decisions of Munsiffs. This takes away a good portion of his time. Whereas the judge of the proposed Civil Court will not have any appeals to decide and steps may be taken for the disposal of execution cases by the appointment of a Registrar and empowering him to dispose of them as is done in the Calcutta Small Cause Court. But these are details. If Government have the mind to make the City Court an useful institution they can do so by the appointment of a good and experienced judge. It will then be as popular as the City Court of Madras.

I thought it my duty to inquire how the Madras City Civil Court was working, whether the people were sighing for the days when they had been under the Original Side of the Madras High Court or were content with what they had got. The reply which I have received from Sir Subramanya Iyer who was for a long time a Judge of the Madras High Court and also for some time its Chief Justice and who I need hardly say is the most prominent citizen of the Madras Presidency, is as follows :—

"I have no hesitation in saying that the City Civil Court in this city has been from the date of its establishment quite a popular institution. It has been both efficient and economical to litigants as well as expeditious. The litigants certainly will not prefer to have their rights determined as previous to the establishment of the City Court. Popular feeling is in favour of the jurisdiction of the City Court being raised. There can be no objection to that jurisdiction being raised to Rs. 10,000."

When there was a proposal in the Calcutta Corporation about two years ago to extend the jurisdiction of the Original Side of the High Court to places within the Corporation of Calcutta but outside the present jurisdiction of the Original Side of the High Court there was a strong protest from most of the Commissioners. Commissioners holding landed properties both within and outside its jurisdiction strongly opposing the proposal. They advocated however the establishment of a City Civil Court on the basis of the Madras City Civil Court.

I think it is to avoid the heavy costs of solicitors and counsel and delay in the trial of cases in the Original Side of the High Court that the Bengal Chamber of Commerce now get their disputes settled by arbitration. It is not only the rule which compels a suitor to engage the services of both a solicitor and a counsel to conduct a case, but it is the special machinery adopted by the High Court in its Original Side for the trial of suits which is at fault, because the machinery tends to excessive outlay of costs by litigants.

As a member of the British Indian Association I thought it proper to ask the opinion of the members of that association on the subject of my resolution and among the 24 opinions received only 3 are against my

resolution. viz., opinions of two Marwari gentlemen having little or no property outside Calcutta and having no experience of costs of litigation in Mufassal Courts. The other members have all given opinion in support of the present resolution most of them having large landed properties both within and outside Calcutta and having experience of litigation both in the Original Side of the High Court and the Mufassal Courts.

My Lord, this is not the first time that the subject of a City Civil Court for Calcutta has been brought forward. Your Excellency will find in the records of your Secretariat that so far back as the year 1885 a petition was presented to Government for a City Court and the British Indian Association supported the proposal. The matter again came up before the Government in 1903 and 1904 on account of two separate and independent memorials which were submitted to Government. but we do not know what steps were taken by Government.

I am sorry that a totally unfounded alarm should have been raised in connection with my resolution. It is said that the proposed City Civil Court will have the effect of crippling the High Court which is considered as the bulwark of our freedom and liberty. I really cannot understand how this can be. It will take away sufficient work from one of the three Judges now sitting on the Original Side of the High Court. Knowing full well that the High Court in Bihar is almost an accomplished fact and that it will take away at least 7 of the Judges of the Calcutta High Court and that the disputes of the leading European mercantile firms are now settled by arbitration by a tribunal of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce, I really cannot understand why the cry is being raised that the High Court will be emasculated, that is independence will be gone, simply because it will be less by one judge in its Original Side if a City Civil Court were established. As I have already said, the proposed Court will be a Court subordinate to the High Court with right of appeal in all cases to the High Court. This does not mean and cannot have the effect of crippling the High Court or of curtailing the liberty or freedom of the subject.

There had been in the High Court and that for a number of years only one Judge sitting on the Original Side. It is only for some time past that sometimes 2 and sometimes 3 Judges have been presiding on the Original Side. What difference will it make in the status of the High Court, if there be one Judge less sitting on the Original Side? The High Court as a whole will not be crippled by the establishment of a City Court nor will there be any disruption of the same if there be a judge less on the Original Side of the High Court. It may be necessary to have a Judge more on the Appellate Side to cope with the appeals which may be preferred against the judgment of the City Court Judge. The alarm which has been raised in some quarters has therefore no foundation in fact or reason.

The same cry was raised in Madras when there was the proposal for the establishment of a City Civil Court there and such cries will always be raised when propositions for improvement will be brought forward.

People have said that why instead of moving His Lordship the Chief Justice and the learned Judges of the High Court for lessening the costs of litigation in the High Court, I have brought forward this resolution before this Council. But it is difficult to see how costs of litigation can be lessened in the High Court when it employs a complicated machinery of solicitors, barristers, sheriff's officers and an expensive procedure for the trial of cases. My regard for His Lordship the Chief Justice of Bengal and other Judges of the High Court is as great as that of any member of the Bar. But as one belonging to the profession of law, I am simply following precedent. Sir Philip Hutchins, as I have already said, was a Judge of the High Court before his elevation to the Imperial Council. I think he knew what procedure was the best to adopt under similar circumstances. I am simply following his line of action and doing what can be done by a member of

this Council, viz., moving a resolution for taking steps to establish a City Court for Calcutta as has been done in Madras. It has been hinted that I have taken up the subject of a City Civil Court for Calcutta in the interests of the profession to which I belong—I mean in the interests of the Vakils of the High Court. All I can say is that hard words break no bones. We are here for the discharge of our public duties. We must remember that the professions exist for the public and not the public for the professions. We are here not to represent the interests of any class or creed but to do all that we possibly can to further the interests of the public, to help your Lordship's Government to do the greatest good for the greatest number.

The result of my resolution is watched with keen interest by a large number of residents of Calcutta specially the poor and the voiceless. The question before your Lordships' Government is whether poor people are to be denied justice simply because they are poor and are unable to pay for it, whether poor people are for ever to groan and are to be deprived of their rights because they have not the means either to prosecute their cases or to defend an action. The suffering is great, the suffering is real and the people do suffer though silently. The boast of the British Government is that it has given the blessings of peace to the people of this country, that it has thrown open the doors of justice to the rich and the poor alike. Why is it that here, the seat of your Lordships' Government, the doors of justice should be barred with gold and open but to golden keys. Why should it be said of a British Court of justice that instead of giving relief to the poor it relieves them of their properties?

My Lord, I am sorry that there should be any difference of opinion as regards the necessity or utility of my resolution. But still we cannot expect that in our public life there should always be unanimity of opinion. There will sometimes be honest difference of opinion. That cannot be helped. But happily that difference has its origin, I need hardly say, not to any partisan spirit.

We must keep pace with the times. The rising tide of public opinion is with us. I may not be successful in carrying through my resolution to-day. The opposition may be strong and powerful. But this I can assure your Lordships' Government that a City Civil Court for Calcutta will come "for a' that" and that sooner or later the vested interests of a few will have to give way to the public and popular demand for cheap and expeditious justice.

In introducing the Madras City Civil Court Bill in the Supreme Council, Sir Philip Hutchins said, so far back as 1891, "many good authorities are of opinion that some similar measure of reform is demanded for the other Presidency towns also, but Madras has advantages which enable her to take the lead. Whether her sisters will be inclined to follow when they see how easily the proposed transfer of jurisdiction can be effected and the good results which follow, is a question which we may well leave it to time to solve." I think the time has come for the solution of this question. Experience of well-nigh 20 years has shewn how beneficial the City Civil Court has proved in Madras. It is now for this council and for your Lordship's Government to confer that blessing which Sir Philip Hutchins anticipated by the acceptance of my resolution and the establishment of a City Civil Court in Calcutta."

The Hon'ble MR. SINHA said :—

"My Lord—I feel it my duty to oppose this resolution, and in doing so I hope I shall not be misunderstood. My learned friend, the Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Ray is apprehensive that it might be hinted, or that it has been hinted that his resolution is put forward in the interests of the profession to which he belongs. I fear my opposition may be ascribed to a similar

reason. At the same time, just as my friend feels that in this matter interests of the public at large and particularly of the litigant public are the only interests to be considered, I feel the same, and it is from that point of view and that point of view alone that I propose to deal with it.

My Lord, we are both agreed that the administration of justice must fulfil certain requisites. It must be efficient, it must be expeditious and it must be, so far as possible, economical, and if the administration of justice on the Original Side of the High Court fails in any one of these particulars, undoubtedly it has failed as a system of administration of justice. Has it so failed is the question which my learned friend has mooted. If it had, I should have expected to find that after all these years the Original Side has existed as the direct descendant of the Supreme Court, the Chambers of Commerce of Calcutta would have been the first to raise their voice against the system of administration there ; I should have expected that the landed interests of Calcutta represented in the various associations, the British Indian Association, the Landholders' Association and similar other associations should have ere long raised their voice against the system of administration. I should have thought that the press of Calcutta, powerful, more powerful than in any other presidency town, should have, during all these years raised, its voice against this pernicious system that my learned friend complains against. But what are the facts? My friend refers to a representation made by the British Indian Association about thirty years ago in which the question was mooted. The British Indian Association has not thought fit to pursue the matter any further. The Chambers of Commerce are not generally disinclined to moot such questions as they consider to be of public interest and we know that with regard to the various Courts, notably the Small Cause Court, the Chambers of Commerce have very often made their voice felt. But I have never yet heard that Calcutta merchants, either European or Indian, have complained of the system of the administration of justice on the Original Side. My Lord, justice should be cheap, but it may be too cheap. In the mufassal, you have a system of appeals from Court to Court, and my friend himself refers in his speech to what is a common place in the profession, viz., that the plaintiff's miseries begin after he has obtained a decree, and it is very often years after he has obtained his decree that he realises, if he does at all, the fruits of his decree. My Lord, the same thing cannot be said of the Original Side of the High Court. A case is heard from beginning to end within six months—certainly the High Court itself sitting in appeal from the Original Side does all that it has to do in connection with such cases in the space of outside a year, and as regards appeals, I think it is common knowledge that not even 5 per cent. of the cases instituted form the subject of appeals from the Original Side of the High Court and so far as Privy Council appeals are concerned, I think it falls even much below one per cent. So that you have that element of finality which is so conspicuously lacking in the judgments and decrees of the mufassal Courts. I am not going to say that the administration of justice in the mufassal is not efficient. We all know that District and Subordinate Judges are as efficient as we can expect under the circumstances, but are we going to suggest that the High Court Judges are not more efficient? The whole reason of their existence as Judges of the supreme Court of the country is their greater efficiency and to suggest that because the administration is in the mufassal efficient, therefore we need not have a more efficient administration as we have undoubtedly in the High Court on the Original Side is, I venture to submit, contrary to public opinion.

My Lord, apart from the question of expedition, apart from the finality I have referred to, apart from the question of efficiency I have alluded to, there remains the question of the cost on which so much has been said and I fear that that is the only argument that my learned friend has got in support of the case he makes. The whole trouble of my learned friend is the elaborate machinery which compels the employment of solicitors and

barristers and my learned friend thinks that the moment these offending persons are removed and vakils are introduced, the millenium will begin. My Lord, my friend complains that it is necessary to employ solicitors in addition to barristers. Has not my friend heard that in many cases in the mufassal there is not only one pleader but several pleaders engaged in a case? Has he not heard that beyond the costs which are awarded in the Courts the client has to pay many more rupees to his pleaders? The taxed costs—the allocatur may be unfamiliar terms to some of my friends here as being something like an animal of very much the same name. But, my Lord, people in Calcutta have been familiar both with taxation and with allocaturs and the people of Calcutta have managed to exist. And though my friend representing mufassal municipalities comes forward today and says that he, stands as a champion of the oppressed in Calcutta, we have not heard as I have hinted before, of any complaints either in the public press or from the public bodies and representative institutions which exist in Calcutta.

If there is any public which is able to make itself heard I should have thought it was the Calcutta public. But in this matter the Calcutta public has not expressed its opinion, and it remained for my learned friend representing mufassal municipalities to voice the grievances of poor litigants in Calcutta. Judged from these three points of view, efficiency, economy and expedition, I venture to submit to the Council that the Original Side has more than fulfilled the expectations of the people.

I may now take the few cases referred to by my learned friend in his speech. I have not had time to verify them. But at least one of them I remember from my own experience in which the taxed costs amounted to something like Rs. 1,26,000. I may refer to the circumstances under which the case came to the High Court. It was a case instituted in the mufassal, which if it had been proceeded with in the mufassal would not have lasted beyond a day or two. But the litigant himself came and got the case transferred from the mufassal to the Original Side of the High Court on the ground that he would not get justice in the mufassal. Innumerable witnesses had to be examined on commission it being a Bhagalpur case—legal practitioners had to be sent out from Calcutta to Bhagalpur, there were three or four purdanashin ladies of rank who had to be examined on commission—all these went to swell the costs. If a case of that dimension and under circumstances like these were to happen in the mufassal I have no doubt that the costs would probably have been even greater. Two persons were determined to fight each other, to ruin each other, and that was the reason why the costs were increased to such an extent. To say that that it is the normal scale of costs on the Original Side of the High Court, would, I venture to submit, be misrepresenting the real state of affairs altogether. We know that with regard to ordinary suits, the costs on the Original Side are, as a matter of fact, less than in the muffasal courts. There are instances not peculiar to this country or any other country when people's passions have been inflamed by the desire to litigate they will come to the expensive man—"the fashionable duffer" as Mr. Labouchere of "Truth" called him, not only because he is the most expensive Whether you have a City Court, a Police Court or a District Court, the people who are determined to litigate in this fashion will spend much money on very trivial quarrels. Do we not know that the Government of Bengal have felt themselves obliged according to the nature of cases to pay enormous sums of money as fees to counsel? Will the City Court make any difference in this respect? We know that in the Police Court, where you can get a pleader for a small sum people have been known to engage Barristers at enormous fees from day to day. Has the millenium come in the Police Court because Pleaders have the right of audience there in the same way as barristers

Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan.

and solicitors have? What reason is there to think that when you throw open the Original Side of the High Court to pleaders the cost of litigation will at once diminish? I venture to think, my lord, it will be exactly the same as it is now, and as long as there are people whom litigants desire to have as advocates on their side on large fees they will be engaged notwithstanding the fact that there is another class of legal practitioner available at one-eighth or one-tenth of the fees. I venture to think, my lord, that this resolution is not aimed so much at the constitution of the Original Side or the elaborate machinery in operation there as at the limited right of audience in that Court. The test as to whether this resolution is aimed at the Court or at a section of practitioners is this—would my friend press the resolution if the right of audience were extended to the particular class whom he has in view? In the City Court, if the right of audience is confined to barristers and solicitors, would my friend care to press his resolution? In the City Court as proposed by my Hon'ble friend, pleaders will have a look in. If they have the same privilege on the Original Side will the elaborateness of the machinery disappear, will the scale of costs and allocaturs be done away with? Will it meet the views of my friend if that were done? It is curious that this resolution is synchronous practically with another movement which is going on at the same time and for which application has already been made to the Judges of the High Court, viz., for throwing open the Original Side to pleaders. If it is boldly put forward that we want the Original Side to be thrown open to pleaders, it is perfectly clear that the resolution will not be one within the competence of this Council; it will be a matter entirely for the Judges of the High Court to deal with, and as a matter of fact it is now being dealt with by the Judges. One cannot, I submit, my lord, bring forward a resolution of this kind in the interests of one section of the profession as against another, because to do that would be to reduce our Council to the level of a debating society."

The Hon'ble MAHARAJADHIRAJA BAHADUR OF BURDWAN said:—

"My Lord—I am neither a Vakil nor a Barrister, but I am very often at the mercy of both. I have got up to suggest a *modus operandi* regarding the resolution of my friend, the Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Ray, who is not only a representative of the mufassal municipality, as my friend the Hon'ble Mr. Sinha has said, but also possesses a considerable amount of landed property in Calcutta itself, and therefore, like many landholders realises the difficulties of cases in the Original Side of the High Court. I may also mention here casually that the Hon'ble mover of this resolution consulted individual members of the British Indian Association, to which association reference has already been made by the Hon'ble Mr. Sinha, and that the majority of them have supported the idea of a City Court in Calcutta. I only mention this fact as I happen to be the President of that Association. But what I beg to propose with your Excellency's permission is that, in view of the divergence of non-official opinion on this resolution—although I may say that those in favour of this resolution including my friend the mover are quite willing to take up the challenge given to them that there is a considerable amount of opinion in favour of the establishment of a City Court in Calcutta, and although they know it, yet they are willing to accept my suggestion—I have consulted my friend, the Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Ray and he is agreeable to what I suggest, namely, that this resolution do stand adjourned until after the conclusion of the debate of the Budget, and that in the meantime Government be pleased to circulate this resolution to public bodies for an expression of their opinion, and I take it that other Hon'ble Members are agreeable to this course being followed."

Babu S. N. Banerji; the President.

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI said :—

"My Lord—I desire to give my whole-hearted support to the resolution moved by my friend the Hon'ble Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan. His resolution has come to me as a sort of relief, and I am sure that this is the feeling of many of us here—"

HIS EXCELLENCY THE PRESIDENT said :—

"Order, order! What the Hon'ble Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan has submitted to this Council is a mere suggestion and not a resolution, and whether it should be accepted or not, is a matter for the President only. Further, I must point out that if the Hon'ble Member speaks now, he will not be able, should the resolution be adjourned, to speak again when it comes up again for discussion."

His Excellency the President, having satisfied himself that the Council were generally in favour of the acceptance of the suggestion made by the Hon'ble Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan, said :—

"I accept the proposal of the Hon'ble Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan that, in view of the divergence of non-official opinion on this resolution, the resolution do stand adjourned until after the conclusion of the debate on the Budget in April, 1915, and that in the meantime the resolution should be circulated by Government to the public bodies of Calcutta for an expression of their opinion. I direct that the resolution, as also a copy of to-day's proceedings in Council in connection therewith, be so circulated and that the discussion on the resolution be resumed in this Council after the termination of the debate on the Budget."

The Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Ray (who had given notice of his intention to do so) asked His Excellency the President to allow him to substitute the following Resolution for that orginally submitted by him in connection with the establishment of a Board of Education in Bengal :—

Modified Resolution.

"This Council recommends to the Governor in Council that an Advisory Board (to consist of official and non-official members) be formed for the purpose of advising Government in matters connected with primary and secondary education in this Presidency."

Original Resolution.

"This Council recommends to the Governor in Council that a Board of Education (to consist of official and non-official members) be formed for the purpose of the adminstration of primary and secondary education in this Presidency."

The necessary permission having been given, the discussion of this Resolution was deferred until the January meeting of the Council as previously directed by His Excellency at the meeting held in September last.

ADJOURNMENT.

The Council was then adjourned to Tuesday, the 19th January, 1915, at 11 A.M.

A. W. WATSON,

Secretary to the Government of Bengal and Secretary to the Bengal Legislative Council.

CALCUTTA;
The 19th December 1914.

B. S. Press—7-1-1915—3112J—500—B. N. K.

The Hon'ble Mr. A.K.Fazlul Huq -

Asked questions regarding -

acceleration of the train and steamer services between Da and Calcutta.

alleged grievances of process-serving peons in the matter their pay.

appointment of Muhammadans to ministerial appointments

candidates for the Provincial Executive Service.

certain statistics regarding the employment of minist officers.

connecting Bagirhat with Khulna by railway-

connecting Barisal with Calcutta by railway

employment of Muhammadans in the Bengal Secretariat and attached offices.

grievances of assistants transferred from the Eastern Ben and Assam Secretariat in the matter of their pay...

increase of pay of process-serving peons attached to Civi

Inspectors of Muhammadan Education...

Muhammadan officer to hold charge of the Barasat subdivis

notification of vacancies in Government offices .....

number of Inspectors of Police officiating as Deputy Supe ent of Police .....

number of students admitted into the Calcutta Medical Col in 1914 and the number of Muhammadans so admitted...

placing of selected officers of the Provincial Civil Serv charge of wards estates.

promotion of Government servants serving on extension....

promotion of Sub-Deputy Collectors

punitive police in the Basirhat subdivision....

scheme for the reorganization of the office establishment the Director of Public Instruction

Silting-up of the khal between Manasa and Alaipur ....

statistics relating to Muhammadan students in the Kafas

Sub-Inspectors of Police promoted to Inspectorship

the Bakr-Id festival and the sacrifice of cows...

withholding of notifications of vacancies in Government from Muhammadan Associations.

Bengal Medical Bill.